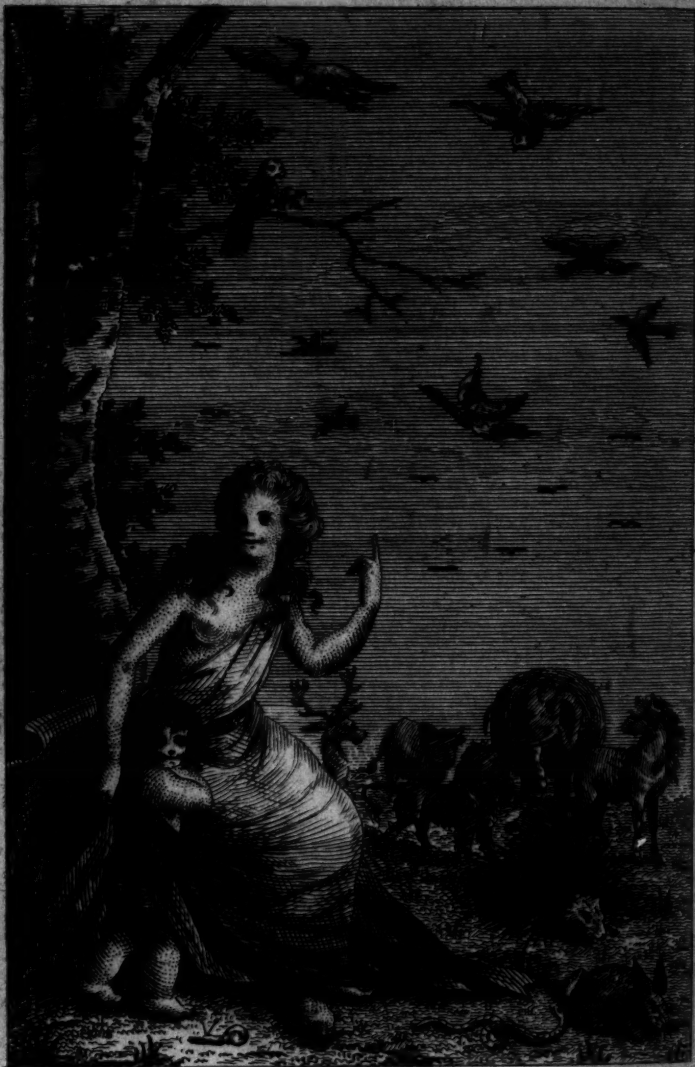
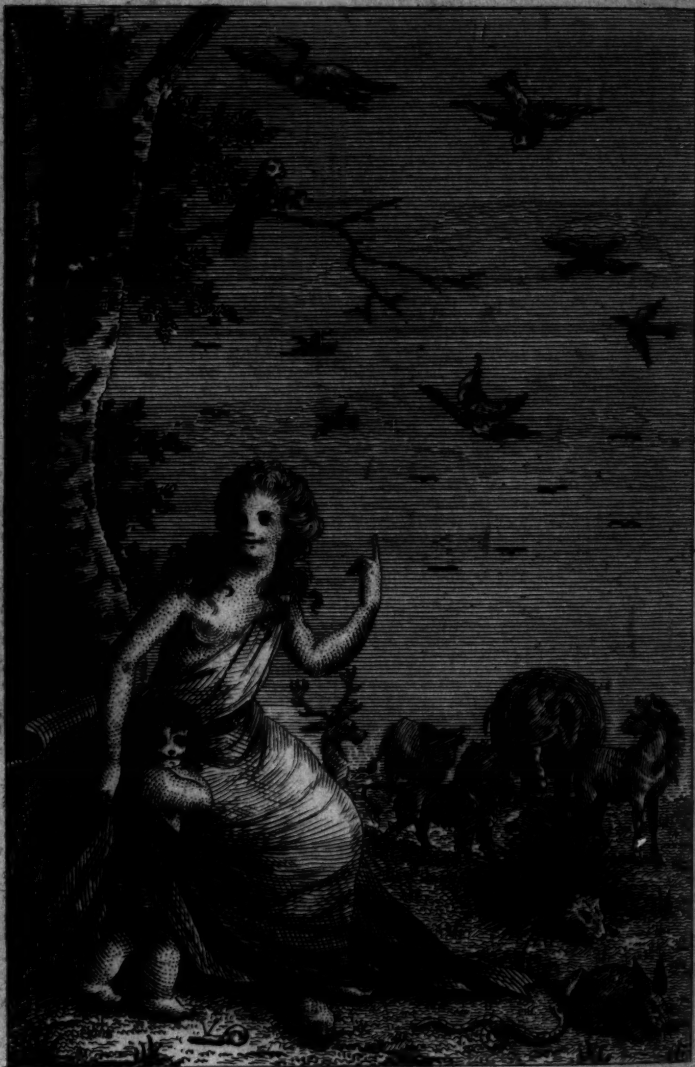




*Pub<sup>d</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1.1789 by G. Riley Ludgate Street.*



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A  
NEW MORAL SYSTEM  
OF  
NATURAL HISTORY,

Or, the BEAUTIES of  
NATURE DISPLAYED;

In the most singular, curious, and beautiful  
QUADRUPEDS, and BIRDS,

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

In the History of the ENGLISH SONG BIRDS,

Practical Instructions for chusing, breeding, feed-  
ing, and teaching them to sing.

---

*“ Who can this field of miracles survey,  
“ And not with GALEN all in rapture say,  
“ Behold a GOD, adore him, and obey.*

BLACKMORE on the Creation.

---

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NEW MORAL SYSTEM

NATURAL HISTORY

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By JOHN GAY, Esq.

Author of the Fables, &c.

London, Printed by J. DODD,

at the Theatre Royal, in the Strand.

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P R E F A C E.

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NATURAL HISTORY, in its general sense comprehending the whole produce of the creation as consisting of beasts, birds, fishes, insects, reptiles, flowers, plants, stones, fossils, and minerals, it was impossible to include in a volume so small as the following, even the names of the different articles. We were therefore, obliged to make a selection of a part, which we considered the most interesting, and worthy the attention of the pupil studying that science of nature. Conformable to this necessity, we have chosen the beasts and birds as the subjects of the pages subjoined.

IN the progress of the work, those beasts and birds are particularly described that were distinguished by any peculiar characteristics of beauty, utility, curiosity, or wisdom in their formation. It has been our endeavour to trace more those grand outlines of sublime wonders that elevate the heart to the creator, than to descend



to the minute investigation of a mere speculatist. For in the work of the ingenious Blackmore,

“ Who can this field of miracles survey,

“ And not with GALEN\* all in rapture say,

“ Behold a GOD, adore him, and obey!

We have been more anxious to vindicate the dignity of nature, than to debase it with puerile researches. Whenever any grand deviation was observable in one beast or bird from another, we made free to search for the final cause, independent of former opinions, however sanctioned by authority, when they happened not to be congenial with our own sentiments. To trace the final causes, or the reasons of the difference in the various classes of birds and beasts, is the first and most essential object to pursue in the study of nature. To look for differences

\* GALEN was professedly an atheist, until he providentially saw a human skeleton which, considering attentively, with regard to the wisdom displayed in its structure, was the immediate cause of his not only believing in a God, but becoming a most zealous professor of religion.

For differences as some have done, only to gratify a prepossession for novelty, without improving the mind or amending the heart, is to turn Natural History into a raree-show, instead of adopting it as a science.

To avoid that tedious detail of description which tires by its sameness, and confuses by its intricacy, we have specified only those characteristics that were essential to notice, in order to be able to distinguish one animal from another. But in this, the peculiar beauties are more particularly noticed than any deviation of colour or form that had no quality to recommend it to our attention.

With respect to the arrangement, we have endeavoured to present it as systematically to our readers as an abridgement could possibly admit. That the student might know of what species every bird and beast was which this volume contains, they are described in the order of their respective classes. Whenever there were more of a species than the limits of the work would admit of being described, they are specified by name according to the most accurate naturalists.

It

IT being the desire of the Proprietor of this Library, to render every part of it as complete as in his power, he has been at the greatest expence to obtain the most correct drawings of the different birds and beasts in this volume; for he conceived that nothing can tend so much to impress any verbal description on the mind, as the addition of a tablet or perfectly representing the original. Impressed with this opinion, he hopes his endeavours to aid the undertaking with all that could render it instructive and interesting, will be received as a small token of that respect he has for the public patronage he now ventures to solicit.

HAVING been, thus, obliged to confine ourselves to Beasts and Birds in this volume, and conceiving the subject of Natural History too important to be passed over thus abridged, we have already in great forwardness, another volume, which will comprise the most interesting of insects, reptiles, plants, and flowers, selected in the same manner as the birds and beasts are in the succeeding pages.

NATURAL

# NATURAL HISTORY.

## QUADRUPEDS.

### THEIR GENERAL NATURE.

#### INTRODUCTION.

**Q**UADRUPEDS, after man, require in Natural History the next attention, and for the following reasons.—Being of similar structure with ourselves, having instincts and properties superior to all other parts of animated nature, affording great assistance to man, and sometimes exercising the greatest hostilities, must render them the most interesting part of the creation, and claim the first attention of the naturalist.

T B

SIMILITUDE

**SIMILITUDE TO MAN.** Like us, they are elevated above the birds by their young being produced alive; above the class of fishes by breathing through the lungs; above insects, by blood circulating through their veins; and mostly above all the parts of creation, by being partly or entirely covered with hair. Since quadrupeds thus approach us in our animal perfections, how little reason have we to be vain of our corporeal qualities.

**FIGURE.** The heads of quadrupeds are generally adapted to their mode of living. It is sharp in some to enable them to turn up the earth where they find their food deposited. In others it is long to afford room for the olfactory nerves. In many it is short and thick to strengthen the jaw, and thus to qualify it for combat. Their legs and feet are entirely formed to the nature and exigencies of the animal. When the body is heavy, the legs are thick and strong, when it is light, they are active and slender. Those that feed on  
fish



fish are made for swimming, by having webbed feet. Those that prey upon the animals are provided with claws, which they can draw and sheath at pleasure. More peaceable and domestic animals have generally hoofs, which are more necessary for defence than attack, and enable them to traverse the immense tracts which they are destined to pass over either to serve man, search for food, or avoid hostility.

**DISPOSITION FOR PREY.** Beasts of prey seldom devour each other. Nothing but the extremities of hunger induce them to this, and when they are obliged to seek such a subsistence, the weakest affords the strongest a disagreeable repast. The deer or goat is what they particularly seek after, which they either take by pursuit or surprise.

**NATURAL SAGACITY.** In uninhabited countries by man, some animals have been found in a kind of civil society. Here they seem as strangers to mutual

B 2

friendship



friendship and benevolence. But when man obtrudes on their haunts, their bond of society is dissolved, and every animal seeks safety in solitude.

**CLOATHING OF ANIMALS.** In the colder climates they are covered with a fur, that preserves them from the inclemencies of the weather; in the more temperate, they have short, and in the warm, they have scarcely any hair on their bodies. Thus we perceive they are provided with cloathing according to what the nature of their situation may require.

**FEROCITY.** Where men are the most barbarous, animals are the most ferocious. Those produced in climates of extreme heat possess a nature so savage that they are scarcely ever tamed.

**FOOD.** The place and nature of their food is adapted to the size and species of the animal. Those that feed in the valley are generally larger than those that

eat on the mountain. In warm climates their plentiful and nutritive food render them remarkable for their bulk. Milk is their first aliment.

**PRODUCE.** Beasts that are large, useless, and formidable, produce but few at a time, while those that are small and inoffensive, are more prolific. This seems to be adapted with most admirable proportion; for were the smaller and weaker to have less offspring, their races might be destroyed from being so frequently made the prey of stronger animals.

**COURAGE.** In defence of their young no danger or terror can drive animals from their protection. Such as have force and subsist by rapine are most formidable in their ferocious courage.

**GENERATION.** Each species of quadrupeds bring forth their young at the time when nature most plentifully affords them their respective nutriment. Those

animals which treasure provisions for the winter produce their young in January, by which time they are able to collect sufficient subsistence for their offspring. Those quadrupeds that are called oviparous from being hatched from eggs, such as the crocodile, turtle, &c. are the most prolific. They are no sooner hatched than they attain their utmost state of animal perfection.

EVERY species of animals has its peculiar cries, by which the same kinds are known to each other, and by which they communicate general expressions of their passions, as fear, joy, and desire. Thus has the allwise, bountiful, and divine Creator, in his infinite wisdom formed a race of animals for the use of mankind, and granted us dominion over them, which should never be exercised but with the greatest humanity.

HORSE.



## H O R S E.

OF all quadrupeds, the horse is the most generous, serviceable, and beautiful. There is none to which man is more indebted. Wild horses herd together in assemblies of five or six hundred. They depute one as their sentinel to guard the rest while

B 4

sleeping

sleeping. Arabia is the most famous for this animal in its wild state. But the English horse excels all others in size, utility and swiftness. It is longer lived than the Barb, and more hardy than the Persian. The famous Childers was so fleet as to run a mile in a minute. The English hunters are allowed to be the most useful horses in the world. To give a particular description of this well known animal is unnecessary, for there is scarcely a country in which he is not found. Spain, Italy, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Holland, Flanders, France, Crete, Morocco, Turkey, Persia, India, China, Tartary, and Arabia, abound with species differing according to the soil and climate of the country. But the general received opinion is that the native clime of this noble animal is Arabia, to which every country above mentioned, is indebted for the breed they have of horses.

ITS disposition to war caused it to be consecrated to MARS, the god of battle.



OF their hides are made collars, traces, and harnesses ; their mane and tails are used in perukes, lines for angling, covering for seats of chairs, cords, and floor-cloths.

ALTHOUGH horses are endowed with vast strength, and great powers, they seldom exert either to the prejudice of their masters; on the contrary, they will endure the greatest fatigues for our benefit. They fear and love the human race, and have a benevolent disposition. Such is the strength of the English draught horse, that one in London has been seen to draw the weight of three tuns. In Yorkshire, pack-horses have usually carried a burden of 420 lb. over the highest hills.



ASS.





A S S.

**T**HIS resembles the horse very nearly in form. But being of distinct species, in a state of nature, they are entirely different. It is found wild in the deserts of Lybia and Numidia, where it is caught with traps. Of their skins is made shagreen leather. The plantain is their

their favourite vegetable. They are capable of scenting their driver, or owner, at a great distance, and will distinguish him in a crowd. In proportion to size, the ass is stronger than the horse, and will be supported with much less care and sustenance. In some countries they are so large, that in Spain a jack ass is frequently seen fifteen hands high. Of all animals that are covered with hair the ass is the least subject to vermin. His period of existence is from twenty to twenty-five years. Although he can endure more fatigue and hardship than a horse, he has much less sleep. It is related that this animal will never stir if he be blinded.

THE ass was originally imported into America by the Spaniards, who now hunt them for their diversion.

IN his natural state, he is fleet, fierce, and formidable, but when domesticated, he is the most gentle of animals, and assumes patience and submission that is even humbler than his situation. He is temperate in eating, and is contented with the refuse of the vegetable

table creation. With respect to his drink he is extremely delicate ; for he will drink at none but the clearest brooks, and those to which he is most accustomed. When young he is sprightly and tolerably handsome. But age deprives him as well as the other parts of animated nature of their qualities ; for he then becomes slow, stupid, and obstinate. The she ass goes eleven months with young, and never produces more than one at a time.

THE medicinal virtues of her milk in restoring health and vigour to our debilitated constitutions, might alone entitle the harmless and inoffensive ass to a kinder return than it meets with from their inhuman and ungrateful masters.



ZEBRA.



## Z E B R A.

THIS animal is the most wild and beautiful in nature, and is principally found in the southern parts of Africa. It is said to surpass all others in swiftness and even stands better and firmer upon its legs than the horse. There was one in England that would eat bread, meat, and tobacco. This differs in nature from

from the wild afs, with which it has frequently been confounded in the description given of it by some naturalists. In shape, the zebra rather resembles the mule than the horse or the afs. It is less than the former and yet longer than the latter. Its ears are longer than those of the horse, but yet shorter than those of the afs. It has a large head, strait back, well-placed legs, and a tufted tail. The skin is close and smooth, and the hind quarters round and well formed. The male is white and brown. The female white and black. These colours are so regularly striped that they appear as if painted, to resemble so many ribbons laid over its body. So that at a small distance the zebra appears to have been dressed by art, instead of being thus most admirably adorned by nature.

MULE. This animal is bred between an horse and the afs, or a jack afs and a mare. In Spain they are used to draw people of the first distinction, and they are, there, so valuable as one of them frequently to cost fifty or sixty guineas. The common mule is very healthy, and lives about thirty years.

RUMINATING



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## RUMINATING ANIMALS

ARE such as are distinguished for chewing their cud and being the most mild and easily tamed. The forest or the carnivorous kinds seek their food in gloomy solitude. But these range together in herds, and the very meanest of them unite in each others defence. The food of ruminating animals being easily procured, they seem more indolent and less artful than the carnivorous, or those which feed on flesh.

### BULL, OX, AND COW.

OF all ruminating animals, these deserve the first rank with respect to their size, beauty, and service. Many of our English peasants have only a cow, from which they obtain a livelihood. The cow improves



improves the pasture, which affords nourishment. Their age is calculated by their horns and teeth. Of all creatures, this animal is most affected by difference of soil, which being luxuriant, increases the growth of the bull, ox, and cow, to a considerable size, which is as diminutive in more sterile countries. In Great Britain, the ox is the only horned animal that will apply his strength in the service of mankind. There is scarcely any part of this species of animal without utility. The blood, fat, marrow, hide, hair, horn, hoofs, milk, cream, whey, urine, liver, gall, spleen, and bones have each their particular serviceable qualities. The hide serves for boots, shoes, and many other accommodations in life. Vellum and gold-beater's skin are obtained from this animal. The hair mixed with lime cements our buildings. Combs, knife-handles, boxes, buttons, and drinking vessels are made of their horns, which are, likewise, used successfully as antidotes for poison, plague, and small-pox. Glue is made from the chips of their hoofs, and

and the parings of the raw hides. Their bones are substitutes for ivory. Their feet afford an oil much used in harness. The blood is an excellent manure for fruit trees, and is the chief ingredient of Prussian blue. The gall, liver, spleen, and urine are used in medicine. Milk, cheese, cream, and butter are too common to require particular mention. Their flesh afford different sorts, such as veal and beef, is calculated to invigorate the weak, support the laborious, and gratify the more voluptuous.

THE URUS, or wild bull, is generally found in Lithuania, a province of Poland.

THERE are some other species of the cow-kind, such as the bison, bonafus, zebu, beeve hog, buffalo, and Siberian cow.



## THE B U F F A L O.

**T**HE Buffallo is more clumsy and less beautiful than the cow. His skin is also harder, thicker, blacker, and thinner of hair. His flesh is hard, black, and disagreeable to the taste and smell. The milk is abundant, but not so good as that which the cow affords. However, in the warm countries, the milk of the buffalo

falo is used to make cheese and butter. The hide, from its thickness and impenetrability, is dressed, and greatly used in that article which is called, from the name of the animal, buff-leather.

Two buffaloes yoked together draw more than four strong horses. They draw coaches in the East-Indies. When pursued they often swim over the largest rivers with the greatest facility. This creature is found wild in many parts of Africa and Asia. They are, likewise, very common in Italy, from whence they were brought into Lombardy, A. D: 591. They grow to twice the size of our largest oxen, and their horns are so large, that in the museum, a pair is to be seen that measure six feet six inches and half in length, weighs forty-two pounds, and hold in their vacuities ten quarts of water. Aristotle properly calls these creatures wild oxen.

THE Buffalo, like other animals that feed on grass, is inoffensive, if undisturbed. But when wounded, or even fired at, their fury is ungovernable,

**I**N India, there is a small buffalo. These are those, we above observed, are used to draw their coaches.

**I**N the northern parts of America, there is another animal larger than the ox, and has short black horns, a large beard, and a head so covered with hair, that he has a most formidable appearance.





## ANIMALS OF THE SHEEP AND GOAT KIND.

**A**LTHOUGH the sheep and goat species comprehend many animals of a similar nature, yet they are in themselves very different with regard to their bodies, horns, food, and covering.

If we consider the utility and inoffensive nature of these animals, we shall perceive they have been long reclaimed from their wild state, and adapted to domestic servitude. They both appear to require protection from man, whom they reward with the greatest favors. They seem, indeed, to court his society. The sheep is the most serviceable, while the goat has more attachment and sensibility. In the earliest ages, the goat appears to have been the greater favourite, and, among the poor, continues so at present. But the sheep has long since become the principal object of human care and attention. We shall, therefore, first describe





## THE S H E E P.

**T**HIS animal in its tame state, is the most harmless and defenceless. In its wild state, it is said to be of a vast swiftness, and are only found in great flocks. When attacked, they immediately form a ring, and the ewes fall into the centre, when they are defended by the rams, in the most vigorous manner. The woolly

woolly sheep is found only in Europe, and some of the temperate provinces of Asia. It is, when fat, awkward in its motions, easily fatigued, and frequently sinks under the weight of its own corpulency, and rich fleeces which it yields twice a year. There is scarce any part of this admirable animal that has not its particular use.

WHEN two rams meet together they engage very fiercely. Every ewe knows its lamb, and every lamb the bleating of its ewe, even amidst flocks containing thousands. They chiefly feed in England on downs, in pastures, young springing corn lands, or turnip fields, but the downs have from long experience been found to prove much the most beneficial, on account of air and dryness of soil, for no animal is so subject to the rot, as the sheep, if fed on marshy land. Every year the whole flock consisting of ewes, weathers, and lambs are sheared. Weathers have generally more and better wool than the ewes. Such is their utility in agriculture, that a hundred sheep will manure eight acres of ground.

In Ireland they have a species of this animal that is called many-horned sheep. They are of a dark brown colour, and under the outward coat of hair, they have a fine, short, and soft fur that resembles wool.

In Spain their sheep produce a wool superior to that of any other country. It is so excellent in its quality, that our clothiers and hatters have been obliged to purchase it at a very great price, in order to enable them to manufacture some of their estimable articles.

The utility of sheep to this country, may be seen by the following moderate calculation of fleece wool annually produced by their growth.

According to the calculation of Young, in his six months tour, there are 466,582 packs of wool manufactured in Great-Britain and Ireland, and 285,000 packs exported unmanufactured. The value, therefore, of all the fleece-wool, thus annually derived from our sheep, estimating it at an average price of 7l. per pack, must amount to 5,260,724l. The quantity of wool manufactured is estimated to afford 12,434,855l. yearly employment

employment for the industrious artizan. And as the whole of our manufactures were said not to exceed, at the above period of calculation. 44,350,529l. the article of wool alone may be considered as equal, in value, to one third of all the rest of our produce and manufactures. But what evinces still more the value of sheep to Great-Britain and her dependencies, is, that the wool affords employment to 1,557,834, out of 4,250,434 that are supposed to be the laborious part of the people.

BROAD-TAILED SHEEP, are found in Tartary, Arabia, Persia, Barbary, Syria, and Egypt. Such is their weight of wool on their tails, that Pennant says, some have been known to weigh fifty pounds; to preserve the wool from wet, dirt, and injury, they are usually supported by a small board that runs upon wheels.

Of the sheep kind there are besides, the *Strepsiceros* found in Crete, and other islands of the Archipelago; the Guinea sheep, and the Moufflon.

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### THE GOAT.

**T**HIS animal differs most essentially from the Sheep, in being covered with hair, instead of wool. Its chief delight is to climb the highest and steepest precipices. Neither the storm terrifies, or the rain incommodes the Goat. According to the climate it will have from two to five kids. The milk they afford is sweet, nutritive, and medicinal. The Goat is found in every part of the world. Every clime seems congenial with its nature. It may justly be called a citizen of the world. Its existence however seldom extends beyond 11 or 12 years.

THE IREX, or Stone-Goat, are said to have horns two yards long, which encrease by knots annually.

OF Goats there are the Goat of Angora, Syrian Goat, the small America Goat, blue Goat, Juda and Siberian Goat, and Greenland Goat, which has horns an ell long, are all distinct species of this useful and general animal.





## THE CAMELOPARD.

**T**HIS creature somewhat resembles in form the deer without its symmetry. These animals have been found eighteen feet high, and ten from the ground to the top of the shoulder. But the hinder part is so low that, when standing, it greatly resembles a dog sitting. Neither the form or temper adapts this animal for hostility

or



or defence. It is, therefore, timorous and inoffensive, and, notwithstanding its size, endeavours rather to avoid than attack an enemy. It is chiefly, a native of Ethiopia. The extraordinary length of the fore legs obliges him to divide them when he feeds on vegetables. To avoid this trouble, it subsists mostly on the leaves of trees. This animal is very rare in Europe. But in earlier times it was known to the Romans; for among the assemblage of eastern animals on the celebrated Prænestine pavement, made by the direction of Sylla, the Camelopard is found. JULIUS CÆSAR, likewise, exhibited this animal among others in the Circæan games.

THIS creature is called by the Greeks the Camelopardalis, from supposing it to be generated between a camel and a leopard.

So uncommon is this creature, that not above one or two have been seen in Europe for many hundred years. Some have been found to have their necks 15 feet long. When they walk, they move both their fore-legs together.



## THE ANTelope.

**W**HAT mostly distinguishes this animal from the goat and deer is their horns being annulated and twisted, their fore legs having bunches of hair, the lower part of their sides having a streak of black, red, or brown, and the internal part of their ears having three white streaks.

THE

THE Antelope generally inhabits the warmest climates, except those in America. It is equally active and elegant, and is timid, lively and vigilant. Like the hare, the hind legs are the longest. They imitate the sheep, in having cloven feet and permanent horns, which are smaller in the female than the male Antelope.

THE chase of these animals is a favourite diversion in the east. In fleetness they exceed the greyhound; this causes the sportsman very frequently to train a falcon to overtake them in the chase. Their swiftness has frequently afforded many beautiful similies, and allusions in the eastern poetry. Of all creatures in the world the eye of the Antelope is supposed to be the most beautiful. It blends meekness with brilliancy. Some species of the Antelope form herds of two and three thousand. They generally feed on hilly countries. Most systematic writers have erroneously ranked this animal with the goat kind; for it forms an intermediate genus between the goat and the deer. The texture and permanency of their horns agree with the  
first

first while their fleetness and elegance agree with the latter.

Of Antelopes there are, besides that before described, the following species:—common, blue Egyptian, Bezoar, harnessed, African, royal, Indostan, white-footed, swift, red, striped, Chinese, Scythian, Cervine, and Senegal Antelope.

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#### ANIMALS OF THE DEER KIND.

**A**LTHOUGH the bull and stag do not resemble each other in shape and form, yet their internal structure is very similar. All the internal difference between them is the deer kind having no gall-bladder, while their spleen is proportionably larger, and the kidneys differently formed. The first animal of the deer kind that claims our description is the **ELK**.

THE



# THE ELK OR FEMALE MOOSE.

**T**HIS animal is a native of both the old and new continent. It is called in Europe, the Elk, and in America the Moose Deer. It is sometimes taken in the forests of Germany and Russia. But they are found in great numbers in North America. Amid the various accounts given of this animal, the following is the



the most authentic. A female Elk only twelve months old, which was in the possession of the late MARRIS, of ROCKINGHAM, measured to the top of the withers fifteen hands. The length from nose to tail was seven feet. It had a short neck, erect thick mane, cloven hoofs, and a body covered with hoary black hair. It was brought from America, and called therefore, a Moose Deer. As this was so young, we may conclude the Elk in its wild and natural state, grows to an amazing height. Some assert it is found in America as high as twelve feet. In all countries, this animal is timorous, gentle, and inoffensive. It swims and runs with incredible swiftness. The Elk delights in cold countries when they feed on grass in summer, and on the bark of trees in winter. In snowy weather they form themselves in herds and seek the fir-forests, where they remain while they can find the least subsistence from the bark of the trees. At this time they are mostly hunted by the natives of New England, Nova Scotia, and Canada in America; by the inhabitants

of Lapland, Norway, Sweden, and Russia in Europe; and by those who dwell in the N. E. parts of Tartary, and Siberia in Asia. The chase of them frequently continues two or three days together.

THE flesh has an agreeable taste, and is said to be nourishing. The skin is so strong and thick as to turn a musquet ball. Its horns are used for every purpose for which hartshorn is recommended.





## REIN-DEER.

THIS is the most useful and extraordinary animal of all the deer kind. It is a native of the northern icy regions, and seems by nature meant to serve that part of mankind who live near the pole. It inhabits further north than any other hoofed animal; for it is found in

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Spitz-Bergen

Bergen and Greenland. But in America it is never seen more southerly than Canada. In Europe they are also found in Samoeida, Lapland, and Norway: in Asia, they are seen as far as Kamtzchatka, and Siberia. This animal mostly supplies the wants of the Laplanders and Greenlanders. Rein deer serve them as horses, and draw their sledges over the icy lakes, and snowy mountains, with incredible rapidity. As a cow they yield all the commodities of milk, cheese, and butter, and as sheep, they furnish them with a warm—altho' it be a homely cloathing. The flesh serves them for food, their tendons for bowstrings, and when split for thread. So that from this quadruped alone, they receive as many advantages as we do from several. The height of a full grown rein deer is about four feet six inches. Nothing can evince more the particular dispensation of Providence than the food he provides for the rein deer, when the snow-clad face of his country seems to threaten him with famine. When not a blade of verdure can be found on heath, valley,

of mountain, trees bounteously afford a black moss, which proves an ample sustenance for this most patient and serviceable animal. Thus are the Laplanders themselves preserved by their only food being subsisted.

WHAT a contrast does these northern countries afford, when compared with those of our more clement and fertile climates! The Laplander is obliged to depend on the rein deer for his food, cloathing, and conveyance, while we have almost the whole range of nature for our accommodation. Should not this advantage alone, excite in us, such a sense of superior happiness, as to render us ever grateful to Providence for the distinguished bounties we enjoy?







S T A G.

**T**HE colour of this animal is generally of a redish brown, with some black in the face, and a black list down the hinder part of the neck, and between the shoulders. The Stag is very delicate in his food. During the winter and spring a Stag seldom drinks. They go  
about

about eight months with young, which is rarely more than one. Their breeding time is in May, when they carefully conceal their young in the most secret thickets. This precaution is wisely dictated from their being exposed to many formidable enemies, such as the wolf, dog, eagle, falcon, osprey, and all the animals of the cat kind. But the Stag himself is the enemy most to be dreaded. The fawn, which is the young of this animal, always accompanies the hind during the whole summer. Among all the enemies of this creature, man seems to be the greatest. In every age and country, the human species have taken delight in the chase of the Stag. Those who first hunted from necessity, have afterwards continued the chase for health and amusement. Indeed, originally, the beasts of chase were the possessors of this whole island. They knew no other constraints than the limits of the ocean—nor acknowledged any particular master. But when the Saxons established the Heptarchy, they were reserved by each sovereign, for his own particular diversion.

In these uncivilized ages, hunting and war were the only employments of the great; for their active and uncultivated minds, had no pleasure in rapine or violence. The other species of this kind are the Fullo, Virginian, Porcine, Roe-buck, Mexican, and Grey Deer.



FEMALE



## FEMALE TIBET.

**T**HIS creature is the female of the Musk, and gives its name to the kingdom of Tibet, a province in China, where it is found between the latitude of 45 and 60 degrees. These animals naturally inhabit the mountains that are covered with pines, delight in solitude, and avoid mankind: if pursued, they ascend the highest mountains inaccessible to men or dogs. It is a  
very

very timid animal, and has such a quick sense of hearing as to discover an enemy at an immense distance. The celebrated drug that bears the name of this animal is produced from the male only, and is found in a bag, the size of a hen's egg, on the belly; it has two small crevices through which the musk passes. This drug when pressed out of the bag, appears a brown fat matter. But it is greatly adulterated by the hunters and dealers, in order to encrease its weight. These animals are so numerous as to have afforded TAVERNIER 7673 musk bags, in one journey that he made for three years. Those found in the kingdom of Tibet are the most valuable. Those of Muscovy are reckoned good. Although the flesh of the male has a strong taste of this drug, it is eaten by the Russians and Tartars. Some years since musk was in great esteem as a perfume, but little regarded as a medicine. It being since found of great utility in physic; it is now little esteemed as a perfume.

THIS animal is likewise, found in the Brazils, India, and Guinea.

CAMEL.





## CAMEL.

**T**HIS is the most temperate of all animals. But this disposition arises more from the scarcity he meets than from choice, or moderation. So admirably is he formed to pass the parched deserts, that he will travel eight days without being thirsty. His hard hoofs are particularly

ticularly adapted to travel on the sands of his native wilds. They are the most useful beasts of burden in Arabia, when no other can bear their loads, or endure the want of drink so long as all creatures must who journey such immense tracts as they do of the sandy deserts. A large Camel is so strong as to carry 12 cwt. To bear the want of water, nature has provided them with a fifth stomach, which serves them as a reservoir from whence they draw, at times, sufficient quantities to quench their thirst. Camels have been sometimes killed in hopes of finding water within them that might slake the parched thirst of the traveller. They are chiefly employed in assisting the caravans. And as the deserts over which they pass, afford scarcely any other vegetation, than the coarsest weeds, the Camel is disposed to love these better than the choicest pastures. He lives about forty or fifty years. Its height is about six feet and a half, and having callouses on each knee, that greatly eases him when he kneels down to rest under his burden, or to be loaded.

The

The chief difference between a Camel and a Dromedary is, the former has two bunches on his back, while the latter has only one. There are besides the ARABIAN CAMEL, and the LLANA CAMEL of America.

GREAT quantities of Camel hair is imported for the use of painting.

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#### ANIMALS OF THE HOG KIND.

IN this kind, animals seem to unite in those differences which separate others. They resemble the horse kind in the long heads, single stomachs, and the number of their teeth, being forty-four. Their cloven feet, and position of intestines, are similar to those of the cow kind. And in their carnivorous appetite, numerous progeny, and chewing their cud, they are like the claw-footed kind.

HOG.



## H O G.

**T**HE Hog blends in his nature the rapacious with the peaceful kind. Though furnished with arms sufficient to terrify the bravest, he is inoffensive to all.

He is the most impure of all quadrupeds. He is insatiate in appetite and sluggish in temper. Some compare

compare him to a miser, who, living, is useless and rapacious, but dead, he is a public benefit. Such is his brutality that he frequently devours his own offspring. Contrary to all other domestic animals, this creature will, impelled by hunger, even devour infants. The Hog is said to be more perfectly formed than any other domestic animal. The thickness of his hide, and the coarseness of his hair render him insensible to blows. He is by nature stupid, drowsy, and inactive. When undisturbed, it will spend half its time in sleep, from which state it seldom rouses itself but to gratify its appetite, which, if sufficiently sated with food, would cause him to become too large for his legs to support. It would, however, still continue feeding, either kneeling or lying. What a symbol is this creature of excessive and inordinate sensuality.

THIS animal is restless at every change of weather, and is liable to great agitations when the winds are high. He is subject to all diseases incident to intemperance. When he is permitted to extend his thread  
of



of life, he lives eighteen or twenty years. The Sow goes four months, and will often produce fifteen young at a litter.

THE TAJACU, PECARY, or MUSK HOG, of South America. It has no tail, has the navel on its back, and when wounded, will call its tribe, which are never satisfied but with the death of their antagonists or themselves.

Of the Hog, there are, the Guinea, Chinese, Ethiopian, Indian, Hog Rabbit, and Hog Cow.





## THE RHINOCEROS.

**T**HIS extraordinary creature inhabits Bengal, Siam, Cochin-China, Quangsi, the islands of Juva and Sumatra, Congo, Angola, Ethiopia, and the country as low as the Cape. He is next to the elephant in size and strength. He has a horn in his forehead that is two feet long. We omit many accounts of this animal as

THE

they

they have too much the appearance of fable, to be inserted in this work, which has been our first pride to dedicate to truth. Unless offended, the Rhinoceros has been found very harmless. The flesh is said to be wholesome. From their having only one horn, though some have been found in Africa with two, this beast must certainly be the unicorn as mentioned in holy writ. Its skin is so hard as to be impenetrable to a musquet ball. Being slow and unwieldy in its motions, nature has given it a horn so strong, solid, and pointed, as to be able to inflict the most deadly wounds. Many medicinal virtues are ascribed to this horn, of which cups are frequently made.

THIS animal is so remarkably formed, that, words not being capable of accurately describing it, we have been particularly careful to have the most correct likeness that could possibly be obtained,

THE scent of this animal is most exquisite. He runs in a direct line, from his sight being incapable of perceiving any thing obliquely. Tobacco is their favourite food.

food. The horn has been used by princes as cups in order to detect what poison might be presented to them; for when any deadly drug is poured on it, it is asserted the horn will immediately break in pieces. Another power attributed to this horn is, that wine, poured into cups made of it, will rise, boil, and ferment.

THIS animal was known to the Romans in their most early ages. It is among the animals of the Prænestine pavement. AUGUSTUS introduced a Rhinoceros as a part of the show he displayed when he made his triumph on obtaining the victory over CLEOPATRA. See our Mythology, vol. 1. and Roman history.





## HIPPOPOTAME OR SEA HORSE.

**T**HE Hippopotame is as large and as formidable as the Rhinoceros. The length of the male has been found seventeen feet, the circumference of the body fifteen feet, the height seven feet, the legs three feet, and the head almost four. *Hasselquist* says, the hide alone is a load for a camel. Its jaws extend



tend about two feet, and it has in each jaw four cutting teeth, which are twelve inches long. The sea-horse teeth are of great estimation among miniature painters, for painting, on account of their never losing their primitive whiteness; a quality which the tooth of an elephant does not possess. It has a skin sufficiently thick to resist the edge or force of any sword or sabre. Contrary to all other amphibious animals, his feet are not webbed. In figure he is between the ox, and the hog. He is found near lakes and rivers, from the Niger to the Cape of Good-Hope in Africa.

THE Hippopotame pursues his prey with great swiftness and rapidity in the water, under which it will remain thirty or forty minutes. It does great injury to the African plantations. DAMPIER relates, such is its strength, that he has seen one overturn a boat with six men in it. Although possessed of this great power, it is very inoffensive to all except its natural prey. We, thus, perceive that nature has most providentially formed the strongest animals the most harm-

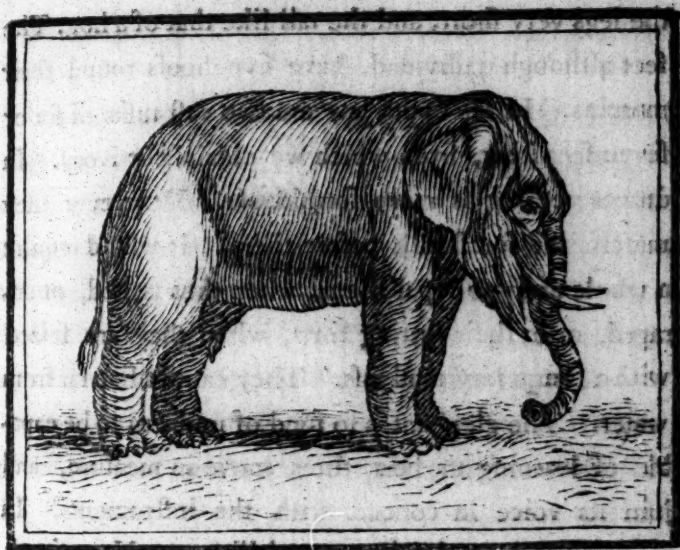
less. It never goes out of the mouth of fresh-water rivers. The female brings forth on land a single offspring. Many of these animals have been tamed after they have been taken in pitfalls. Their flesh is as delicate as veal, and is therefore often sold as other meat in the public shambles.

THIS animal is the Behemeth of Job. The Romans knew it. AUGUSTUS introduced an Hippopotame among the other foreign animals that graced his triumph over CLEOPATRA.

It was worshipped by the Egyptians, at their city of Papremis.



ELEPHANT.



## E L E P H A N T.

THE Elephant is reckoned the largest of all land animals, and, next to man, is the most sagacious. Its height is from seven to fifteen feet. And although so large and unwieldy it will swim. It has a long trunk formed of many rings, which answers the purpose of hands to feed itself. The eyes are extremely small,

the legs very short, and the tail like that of a hog. The feet although undivided, have five hoofs round their margins. In the upper jaw are two vast tusks of six or seven feet long, from which we obtain our ivory. In droves nothing is more formidable. Wherever they march, the forest falls before them. It would require a whole army to repel them, when thus united, or enraged, or in their rutting time, when they are seized with a temporary madness. They cannot live far from water. The elephant is so fond of music as to be capable of learning to beat time, move in measure, and join its voice in concert with the instruments. In Africa it still retains its natural liberty. No animal, when tamed, is more courteous, obedient, and affectionate. It kneels to receive its rider. It will draw chariots and shipping, and frequently carries cannon, and small towers with soldiers in them to battle, with great strength, courage, and perseverance. They will sleep standing. Many have lived to 120 and 130 years. The Africans, who take them in pit-falls, very often

eat their flesh. A slight wound behind the ear is fatal to them.

THE following is a remarkable instance of its sense and love of glory. An elephant, being directed to force a large vessel into the water, was found too weak. The master sarcastically desired the keeper to take away the lazy beast and bring another. The poor animal was so affected at the reflection, that he instantly repeated its efforts, fractured its skull and expired.

LET not man boast his attachment to glory, when he is thus equalled in the most eminent examples, by the brute creation.





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### ANIMALS OF THE MONKEY KIND.

**T**HE Ape or Monkey class are distinguished from all others by their similitude to man. They have hands instead of paws; and their ears, eye-lids, lips, and breasts greatly resemble those of the human race: their internal structure bears the like conformation to mankind. Those, therefore, who make their persons the principal object of their attention, need only consider their affinity to the brute creation, to induce them to cultivate those mental qualities which can alone distinguish them from the inferior classes of being in the creation!\*

THE

\* In the well-known story of PETER the wild boy, we see of what importance the cultivation of our infant faculties are. This boy was found by king George I. in the woods of Germany, and brought to England in the year 1700, at about ten or twelve years of age, as was then supposed; when his agility in climbing

THE Monkey tribe are lively, active, and full of frolic, chatter, and grimace. Indeed their actions, as well as their form, seem designed by nature to burlesque the ignorant part of our species. In general, they are fierce and untameable. They are dirty, and dishonest. Their greatest pleasure is to be perpetually stealing,

the trees is reported to have been surprising. He must, in this case have been lost, or left in the woods in his early childhood, perhaps soon after he was able to walk; his infant impressions in society being thus lost, his subsequent ones adapted to his savage situation, and not having had an opportunity of learning and practising speech, he continued to the day of his death a meer OURANG OUTANG. The people with whom he boarded in England, could make him break or cleave wood, draw water, or thresh in a barn, but his rude narrow mind could never be enlarged, owing principally to his never conquering the habit of speech. This instance shews what a man as an individual would be, and what he owes to the experience of former ages, carefully instilled into him by proper EDUCATION as his faculties open.

stealing, and hiding their thefts. Woods and trees are their chief habitations, where they feed on fruits, leaves, and insects. Such is their activity, that they will leap from tree to tree, even when loaded with young. Being a sociable animal, they go in great companies or tribes; for the different species never mix with each other. Serpents, will pursue them to the tops of trees, where they frequently, devour them whole.

As these creatures differ too greatly from each other according to their species, for a general description to afford an adequate idea of their nature, we shall particularly notice the Baboon, Ape, and Ourang Outang.



**OURANG**



OURANG OUTANG, or WILD MAN of the Woods.

**T**HIS name is given to various animals that walk upright, but that have different proportions and come from different countries. The Ourang Outang greatly resembles in countenance a toothless old woman, and approaches nearer to the human race than any other animal whatever. The whole creature corresponds so nearly

nearly in form to man, that many have expected to find the same correspondence. But the contrary being found, disproves that sceptical assertion, that matter forms the nature of the mind. It proves, likewise, that the most curiously constructed bodies are formed in vain, unless a corresponding soul is infused to direct and controul its operations.

Dr. TYSON describes as follows an Ourang Outang, brought from Angola in Africa.

The body was covered with black hair which greatly resembles human hair, and it was longest in the same parts as in the human species. The face was like the human face except the forehead being larger and the head rounder. The jaws were not so prominent as in monkies, but flat like those of a man. The ears, teeth, and in a word, the whole of this creature, at first view, presented a human figure. And as he so nearly approached man in his figure, his disposition was exceeding fond, more gentle, and harmless, than the monkey race are found in general. Those who were familiar  
with



with him in the ship, he would most tenderly embrace, open their bosoms, and clasp his hands about them. And although there were other monkies on board, he never associated with them, as if he considered them as, indeed they are, classes of being much inferior to him in the scale of creation. Being accustomed to cloaths, he grew so fond of them as to endeavour to dress and undress himself. Such parts as he could not put on, he took to some of the company on board to have their assistance. Like any other human creature, it would go to bed, place his head on the pillow, and cover himself with the cloaths.

ONE of these animals was shewn in London, 1738, that would reach himself a chair, drink tea, which, if too hot, he would cool in the saucer, cry like a child, and be exceedingly unhappy in the absence of his keeper.

The Ourang Outang inhabits the interior parts of Africa, the island of Sumatra, Borneo, and Java.

THIS animal is solitary in nature, and subsists chiefly on fruit and nuts. The larger Ourang Outangs are so strong,

strong, as to be capable of overpowering the strongest man. And as nature has placed them among the fiercest animals, they are provided with sufficient courage, cunning, and dexterity, to drive away even elephants from them. They beat them with their fists and pieces of wood, and will throw stones at those who offend them. They sometimes carry away young negroes, especially females, whom they have been known to treat with the greatest tenderness. Le Brosse asserts, that he knew a woman of Loango, who had lived three years among them.



PIGMY



## P I G M Y   A P E.

**T**HIS animal has a flat face, and ears like those of a man. It is as large as a cat, and has olive brown hair. Ants, other insects, and fruits are its chief subsistence. To find ants, they assemble in troops and turn over every stone in search of them. Africa is the country where they are mostly found. In animal exhibitions,

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the

the Pigmy Ape is not uncommon. Their disposition is very gentle and tractable. The hair on their head seems to come over the forehead like the cowl of a monk. Its hands are remarkable similar to those of human nature. Of all species of the Ape, this animal seems to be the most harmless, and is, therefore, more sought by those who are fond of making such creatures objects of their attention and amusement.

THERE are the MAGGOT, or BARBARY APE.

LONG-ARMED APE, called by Mr. BUFFON, the Gibbon, is a very extraordinary creature. It walks erect, has no tail, and has such long arms that when he stands upright, he can touch the ground with his hands.

TUFTED APE, has a head so long that it measures fourteen inches. It has a long upright tuft of hair on the top of the head, and another under the chin.

SIMIA PORCARIA, of which there is a drawing in the Museum.

BABOON.



## B A B O O N.

**T**HIS animal is about three feet and a half high, has a thick body, strong limbs and long canine teeth. The tail is thick, crooked, and seven inches long. It has a pouch in each cheek, where it deposits its provisions. This shews they are adapted to live in countries where they are liable to meet with a temporary

F 2

scarcity;



scarcity; for nature never bestows any particularity on a being, but in conformity with the necessity of forming it perfectly capable of living wherever it is placed. Thus arises the great difference in animated nature, from the variety of clime where they reside, and not, as some have falsely and unphilosophically imagined, to distinguish every part of the creation, from each other.

THE Baboon sometimes walks erect. Instead of nails, the hands and feet are armed with claws, in order to adapt it for climbing, and render it formidable against those natural enemies it finds where it is obliged to seek its subsistence. FORBIN relates, that in Siam, when the men are at harvest work, whole troops of Baboons will attack a village where the women are obliged to defend themselves with clubs, and other arms, from their brutal insults. Whatever they undertake, they execute with surprising skill and regularity. When they attack an orchard, they do it with all the skill and precaution of an army in a siege. They have their sentinels, and their lines most orderly formed.

The

The female produces one, which she carries in her arms.

BABOONS are not carnivorous. They feed upon fruits, corn, and roots. Their internal parts more resemble those of the quadrupeds than mankind.

THE MANDRIL, mentioned by SMITH, is a native of the gold coast. It grows to four and five feet in height, and more frequently walks erect than on all fours. When displeased, it is said to weep like a child.

WANDERER, is a small Baboon, that is remarkable for having a long white head of hair, and a large beard of the same colour.

LITTLE BABOON, and the Pigtail Baboon are all that remain beside of this species.

OF MONKIES there are an innumerable quantity. We have only room, therefore, to name them as follows: Dog-faced, Lion-tailed, Hare-lipped, Spelted, Green, White-eyelid, Negroe, Chinese, Varied, Dove, Tawny, Winking, Goat, Four-fingered, Weeping, Orange, Horned, Antiqua, Fox-tailed, Great-eared, Silky, and Little-lion Monkey.

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A N I M A L S O F T H E D O G K I N D.

THE Dog, next to the Elephant, is the most intelligent, and friendly to man of all the quadrupeds. It seems beyond the power of ill-usage to alienate its affections from human nature. His beauty, swiftness, vivacity, courage, fidelity, docility, and watchfulness, render him most endearing to man: when in his domestic state, his first ambition and satisfaction is to please. He is more humble through affection than servility. He waits his orders, and most implicitly obeys them. Friendly without interest, and grateful for the slightest favours, he sooner forgets injuries than benefits. His only aim is always to serve, and never displease.

MULTITUDES of Dogs are found wild, or rather without masters, in Cougs, Lower Ethiopia, and towards the Cape of Good Hope. They go in great  
packs

packs and attack lions, tigers, and elephants, by all of which they are frequently killed. Although there are wild Dogs now in South America, yet this animal was unknown to the New-Continent, before it was carried there from Europe. This shews that the brute creation, like the human species, may degenerate from a state of refined society to that of a savage nature. Dogs, in their wild state, breed in holes, like rabbits holes, and when they are taken young, they so attach themselves to mankind, as never to desert their masters, or return again to their savage companions.

THE names of the different species of this animal in its domestic state, are the Shepherd's Dog, Hound, Spaniel, Grey-hound, Danish Dog, Mastiff Bull Dog, Pug Dog, Irish Grey-hound, Terrier, Blood-hound, Leymmie, Tumbler, Lap-dog, Small Danish Dog, Harlequin Dog, Cue Dog, Shark Dog, Turkish Dog, and Lion Dog.



## M A S T I F F.

**A**MONG these useful and estimable animals, we have chosen the Mastiff as the most worthy our particular notice, from its being the largest, and of most essential service to man.

THE Mastiff possesses great size and strength. He has a large head, hanging lips, and a noble countenance.



nance. This creature is so formidable, that **Caius** says, three of them were reckoned with the Romans, a match for a bear, and four for a lion. Great Britain was so famous for its Mastiffs, that the Roman emperors appointed an officer in this island to attend their breed, and to send them, at a proper age, to Rome, for the combats in the Amphitheatre. The Mastiff is usually kept in England, for guarding yards, houses, and other places.

To try the strength of this creature, **JAMES I.** caused three of them to be loosed on a lion, which was vanquished by their strength and courage. Two of the Dogs were, indeed, disabled in the combat, but the third obliged the lion to seek his safety by flight. From the size, strength, and courage of this noble creature, it may be presumed, nature especially formed him for the guardianship of mankind. And as he is the particular growth of this country, we ought to hold ourselves greatly indebted to Providence, for so partial and inestimable a bounty bestowed for our accommodation.

**GREYHOUND.**



## THE GREYHOUND

**I**S the swiftest of all Dogs, and pursues a hare by the sight, and not by smell. Nature having denied it an acute scent, has recompensed this animal with an extraordinary speed. Such is his staunchness for hunting, that while it keeps the hare in view, it will continue running

running until it expires, or takes the prey. Its head and legs are long, and the body is so exceeding slender, that nothing can be more adapted for fleetness. Formerly, the Grey-hound was esteemed amongst the first rank of dogs. This appears by the forest laws of CANUTE ; he enacted that no person under the degree of a gentleman, should presume to keep a Grey-hound.

THE various kinds of this animal, are, the Spanish Grey-hound, which is sleek and small, and the Oriental Grey-hound, which is tall and slender ; with very pendulous ears, and long hair on the tail.



POINTER.



## P O I N T E R.

**T**HIS dog is most excellent in Spain. It is about the size of a bull-dog, and spotted like a spaniel. In disposition it is docile, and capable of being trained for the greatest assistance to the sportsman, who delights in shooting. It is astonishing to see to what a degree

degree of obedience these animals are to be brought. Their sight is equally acute with their scent ; from this quickness of sight, they are enabled to perceive at a distance, the smallest sign from their master. When they scent their game, they fix themselves like statues, in the very attitude in which they happen to be at the moment. If one of their fore feet is not on the ground when they first scent, it remains suspended, lest by putting on the ground, the scented game might be too soon alarmed with the noise. In this position they remain until the sportsman comes near enough, and is prepared to take his shot. He gives the word, and immediately spring the game. The attitude in which a Pointer stands, has been often chosen as a picture for the artist to delineate.

THE other animals of the Dog kind, are, the Wolf, Fox, Jackall, Isatis, and Hyæna.

Of these, we select the latter, as the most singular and remarkable animal to describe.

HYÆNA.





## H Y Æ N A.

**T**HE Hyæna is nearly as large as a wolf, which it resembles in the head and body. It is more savage and untameable than every other quadrupel, and is continually in a state of rage and rapacity; unless when it feeds it is always growling. Its glistering eyes, erect  
bristles

bristles on the back, and teeth always appearing, render his aspect truly terrific. Its horrible howl is said to resemble a human voice in distress.

THE Hyæna for its size, is the most terrible and ferocious of all other quadrupeds. It defends itself against the lion, is a match for the panther, and frequently overcomes the ounce. This obscure and solitary animal chiefly inhabits Asiatic Turkey, Syria, Persia, and Barbary. Caverns of mountains, cliffs of rocks, and subterraneous dens are chiefly its lurking places of solitude. The mansions of the dead are subject to his violations; for, like the Jackall, the putrid contents are to him, the most dainty food. It preys upon flocks and herds. When these, and other animal prey fails, he will eat the roots of plants, and the tender roots of palm trees.

THE superstitious Arabs, when they kill an Hyæna, always buries its head, lest it should be applied to magical purposes, as the neck was formerly by the Thessalian forcerefs. The unenlightened Arab must be excused

excused for this weak opinion, when it is considered, that the most refined and learned antients, thought the Hyæna had the power of charming the shepherds, and, as it were, rivetting them to the place where they stood.

THE voice of this animal is a hoarse, disagreeable combination of growling, crying, and roaring.

THE fabulous relation of PLINY, respecting this creature, is almost too absurd to mention. We, however, relate it just to shew how much he debased the history of nature with his fanciful impositions. He says, that Hyænas have been known, not only to imitate the human voice—but to call some person by his name, who, coming out, was immediately devoured by the subtle cruelty of this creature.

IN Guinea, Ethiopia, and the Cape, there is another species of Hyæna, which is called by PENNANT, the spotted Hyæna.

## ANIMALS OF THE CAT KIND.

**T**HIS class is particularly distinguished by their sharp claws, which they can extend and conceal at pleasure. They lead a solitary ravenous life; for most of them not only seek their food alone, but, excepting at certain seasons, are enemies to each other. The dog, wolf, and bear will sometimes live on vegetables. But the lion, tiger, leopard, and all of the cat-kind feed only upon flesh.

THESE animals are in general fierce, cruel, subtle, and rapacious. It is probable, however, that the most ferocious may be rendered domestic. Lions have drawn the chariots of conquerors, and tigers have tended those herds which they now destroy. Though differing in size and colour, all animals of the cat kind are allied to each other in artifice, ferocity, and rapacity. To see one is to know them all. Human assiduity can ef-

fect many changes in other creatures, but in this kind all effects to alter their immutable nature prove abortive. The dog, cow, and sheep, vary according to their country. But the lion and tiger are the same in whatever soil they are found. Animals of the cat kind are remarkable for their round heads, short noses, and long whiskers on the upper lip.







## THE L I O N.

**W**HAT distinguishes this animal's appearance from others, is chiefly his head, neck, chin, and shoulders being covered with long shaggy hair like a mane. It has very strong limbs, and a long tail with a tuft of hair at the end. The colour is tawny, except on the belly, where it inclines to white. The length of the

G. 2

largest

largest Lion from the nose to the tail, is about eight feet. The lioness is less and has no mane.

CLIMATE little affects this noble animal. He subsists as well under the frigid poles, as beneath the torrid zone, while most other animals are adapted to live in particular latitudes.

THE Lion abounds chiefly in the torrid zone, where they are the largest and most tremendous. The burning sun and arid soil seem to inflame their nature to the greatest height of savage ferocity. The Lions in the colder regions, such as mount Atlas, are much inferior in strength and spirit. The torrid zone, affording few rivers or fountains, causes the Lion to live in a perpetual fever which excites in him a sort of madness that is fatal to every animal he meets. It is, therefore, happy this ferocious creature, as travellers in general relate, are daily declining in the number of the species. But, perhaps, were they to be entirely extirpated, other animals on which they prey, might be too numerous for the safety and welfare of the inhabitants of those dreadful

dreadful countries. We had, therefore, better leave the proportioning the number of this animal to him, who measures all things by the scale of his unerring wisdom and providence.

The eyes of a Lion are always bright and fiery, even in death. The paws, teeth, eyes, and tongue, perfectly resemble those of a cat. There is scarcely any difference in their internal parts.



G 3.

PANTHER.



## P A N T H E R.

**T**HIS beast has been frequently mistaken by naturalists for the Tyger. This error has arisen from its being nearly of the same size, and possessing the same disposition to cruelty, and a general enmity to the animal creation. Its chief difference is in being spotted, and not streaked as the Tiger.

THE Panther is found in Barbary, and all the intermediate

mediate countries in Africa that lie between that and Guinea. It is peculiar to Africa, as the Tiger is to Asia. Although hunger impels it to attack every thing that has life, without distinction, yet it differs from the Tiger in preferring, at other times, the flesh of animals to that of mankind. Like the Tiger, it seizes its prey by surprise, and will climb trees in pursuit of monkeys, and other creatures that seek among the branches an asylum. This species always retain their fierce, malevolent aspect, and never cease to growl or murmur.

THIS animal was well known to the ancients. From the number the Romans continued to introduce in their public shews, it might have been supposed they would have extirpated the race of this savage and untameable animal. SCARUS exhibited 150 Panthers in one show; POMPEY the Great, 410; and AUGUSTUS 420. But although they certainly, thus, thinned the coasts of Mauritania of these animals, yet they are now swarming in the southern parts of Guinea.

AMONG the remaining animals of the cat kind, we shall select the white Bear and Opossum.





## WHITE OR POLAR BEAR.

**T**HIS creature grows to a great size, and is the undisputed master of Greenland and Spitzbergen. When our mariners land in those ice regions, these animals come down and view them, uncertain to attack or retreat. When shot at or wounded, they endeavour to fly; but, if incapable, their resistance never ends but with

with their death. They live upon seals, carcases of whales, and such human bodies as they can find or make their prey. Companies of them are so daring as to attack crews of armed men, and will even board small vessels. From this disposition to resist all invasion, they seem by nature formed to convince man, this inhospitable clime was only meant for their possession, and that it was never designed by providence to be the abode of the human species. These bears swim well, and dive with great agility. Battles frequently ensue between them and the whales, in which the latter generally are victorious, from being attacked in their own element. If they, however, can capture a young whale, they are sufficiently repaid for the danger of meeting the parent.

THE affection between the white bear and their young is so great, that they prefer death to parting. The coldest part of the globe is allotted by nature for the abode of this creature. They are not found farther south than Newfoundland, unless they have been carried

ried involuntarily by floating islands of ice, on which they had too rashly ventured in search of their prey.

THE flesh of this animal is white, and has the taste of mutton. Its fat is melted for train oil, and that extracted from the feet is used medically. The lion is so unwholesome as to have endangered the lives of three sailors who eat some.

Dr. GOLDSMITH relates, that when a Greenlander and his wife are paddling out at sea, a white Bear will frequently jump into his boat, seat himself, and be rowed a shore like any other passenger.



OPOSSUM.



## OPOSSUM.

**W**HAT distinguishes the Opossum from all other animals and has long excited the wonder of mankind, is a large pouch in the lower part of the female in which the teats are lodged, and where the young are sheltered as soon as they are brought forth. At this time they are blind, naked, small, and imperfect. Therefore nature

ture has providentially provided them with this natural asylum, until they can perfect their being. But when they are grown stronger, here they seek shelter as chickens under the wing of the hen. Here they repose from fatigue, or seek their food when hungry. The dam on such occasions most readily opens her bag to receive them. The flesh of the old Opossum is like that of a sucking pig; the Indian women dye its hair and weave it into girdles. The skin has a very offensive smell. The head resembles that of a fox, and has fifty teeth. The eyes are black, lively, and placed upright. The ears are large, broad, naked, and transparent. Its tail is part covered with scales, and part with hair, which we may suppose is that part of the young that cannot be concealed in the pouch, and, therefore, it is provided with this natural armour. The feet resembles hands, by having five toes or fingers with white crooked nails.

THE tail of this animal greatly resembles a snake. By it, the Opossum suspends itself on one tree, and by  
twining



swinging in this position, throws itself on the branches of another. It destroys poultry, and sucks the blood without devouring the flesh. It walks extremely slow, and when overtaken it will feign itself dead.

THIS animal is a native of Virginia, Louisiana, Mexico, Brazil, and Peru.

THE other less interesting animals of the cat kind, are the domestic cat, wild cat, ounce, tiger cat, lynx, cougar, siagush, Angora cat, serval, black bear, brown bear, white or polar bear, wolverine or glutton, racoon, badger, marmoset, cayapolin, chalanga, and tarsior.



## ANIMALS OF THE WEAZEL KIND.

THE Weazel kind may be distinguished from other carnivorous animals, by their long and slender bodies, enabling them to creep into very small apertures after their prey. They are called vermid, from resembling the worm in this particular. In the form and disposition of the claws, they differ from the rest of the cat kind; for they can neither extend or contract them. They vary from the dog kind in being cloathed rather with fur than hair. They differ as much in their disposition, as in their appearance. They are cruel, cowardly, and voracious; they subsist mostly by theft, and destroy all about them, before they begin to feed; they suck the blood of every animal before they regale on the flesh.

AMONG the various individuals of this species, we shall select as the most remarkable, the civit, beaver, porcupine, sloth, and aramdillo.

CIVET.



## THE CIVET.

LIKE the rest of the weazel kind, has a long slender body, short legs, and an odorous matter exuding from the glands behind. It is, however, much larger than weasels in general; its length being, from nose to tail, about two feet three inches, the tail fourteen inches, and the body rather thick. It has a long nose-like





## B E A V E R.

THE Beaver is the only quadruped that has a flat broad tail, covered with scales, which serves it as a rudder in the water, and a cart to carry materials for its building on land. The hind feet are webbed, but the fore feet are not, from the necessity of using them as  
 TH hands.



hands. The fore part in general resembles a quadruped, and the hind part a fish. It has teeth formed as a saw, with which they cut the pieces of wood they use in building their huts, and damming the water out of them. The fur is of a deep chestnut brown, and is the most valuable material used in the hat manufactory. The length of a Beaver, from nose to tail, is about three feet; the tail is eleven inches long, and three broad.

IN June and July they form their societies of two and three hundred, which they continue all the rest of the year. Where they meet, they fix their abode, which is always by the side of a lake, or river. The sagacity of this animal is truly worthy the consideration of the naturalist and philosopher. It is impossible to consider it without human pride being greatly humiliated. When we see a Beaver with only his feet, teeth, and tail capable of building a hut as commodious for itself and its young, as a cottage can be rendered to a peasant even with the aid of reason and mechanical tools, of what superiority has man to boast?

If they fix their station by a river that is subject to floods, they build or dam a pier that crosses the stream so as to form a piece of dead water. But if they settle near a lake which is not liable to inundation, they save themselves this trouble. To form the dam, or pier, they drive stakes of about five or six feet long, wattling each row with twigs, and filling the interstices with clay. The side next the water is sloped, and the other perpendicular. The bottom is from ten to twelve feet thick, gradually diminishing to the top, which is but two or three feet at most. This dam is generally about eighty or a hundred feet in length. The greatness of the work compared with the smallness of the architect, however astonishing, is not more wonderful than its firmness and solidity.

THE houses are erected near the shore, in the water collected by the dams. They are either round or oval, and are built on piles. The tops being vaulted, the inside resembles an oven, and the outside a dome. The walls, which are two feet thick, are made of earth,

stones, and sticks, and are plaistered with all the skill and excellence of the most expert mason. There are two openings in each house, one into the water, and the other towards the land. Their height is about eight feet. From two to thirty Beavers inhabit each dwelling, and in each pond there are from ten to twenty-five houses. Each Beaver has a bed of moss. They are such perfect epicures, that they daily regale themselves on the choicest plants and fruits which the country affords.



FORCUPINE.



## PORCUPINE.

**T**HIS animal is about two feet long, and fifteen inches high. The body is covered with quills, from ten to fourteen inches long, and very sharp at the points. They grow in the animal as feathers in birds. The head, belly, and legs are covered with strong

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bristles.

bristles. The whiskers are long, and the ears like those of a man. When the animal is irritated, the quills stand erect. The eyes are so small as only to be about a quarter of an inch wide.

LIKE the hedge-hog, these quills are rather for self-defence than attacking an enemy. The opinion of its darting its quills is found to be fabulous. They are only shed when the animal moults. This creature seems allied to the bird creation, by being covered with quills—although not destined for flight, having no wings or feathers. These quills being found a sufficient defence against the most formidable animals, shew how powerful the weakest materials may be rendered when under the skill and workmanship of Infinite Wisdom. A wolf has been found dead with some Porcupine quills in his mouth, where they must have stuck when he rashly attempted to devour the Porcupine.

THE Italian Porcupines have a smaller crest, and shorter quills than those of Asia and Africa.

SLOTH.





## S L O T H.

**T**HERE are two kinds of this animal. One has two claws on each foot, and no tail; the other has three on each, and a tail. Both these are described under the common appellation of the Sloth. It is about the size of a badger, and has a coarse fur

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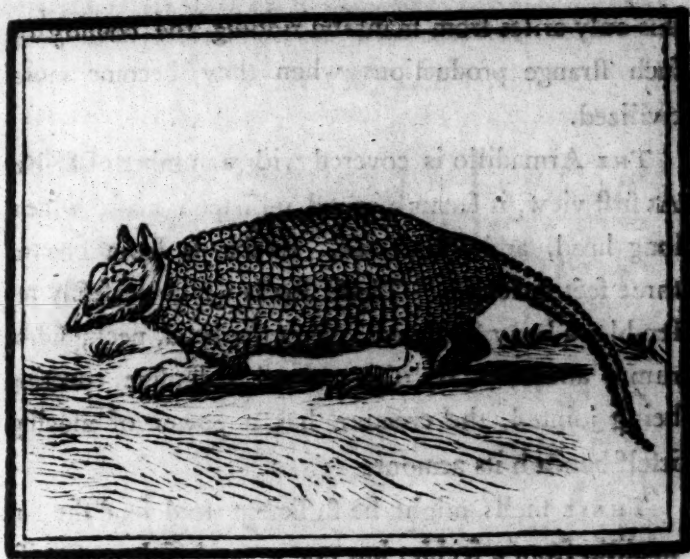
resembling

resembling dried grass. The tail is exceedingly short, and the mouth extends from ear to ear. The feet of this animal are so obliquely placed, that the soles scarcely ever touch the ground. So awkwardly is the construction of its limbs, that it moves only three yards in an hour. Thus, unless impelled by the severest hunger, he seldom is induced to change his place.

THE Sloth inhabits many parts of the eastern side of South America. It is the meanest, and most ill formed of animals. Leaves and fruits of trees are its chief food. It is a ruminating animal, and is provided by nature for this purpose with four stomachs.

ALTHOUGH it ascends a tree with the greatest difficulty, it cannot descend from it without forming itself into a ball, and dropping from the branches to the ground, where the shock causes it to remain some time inactive. To travel from tree to tree, that are one hundred yards distant, is, for the Sloth, a week's journey.

ARMADILLO.



## A R M A D I L L O.

**N**ATURE seems to have reserved all the wonders of her power, for those remote countries, where men are the most savage, and quadrupeds the most various. She seems to become more wonderful in proportion, as she retires from human inspection. But in reality, this

this only arises from mankind ridding the country of such strange productions when they become more civilized.

THE Armadillo is covered with a number of shells. At first view, it seems a round misshapen mass, with a long head, and a short tail. Its size is from one to three feet in length. These shells which perfectly resembles a bony substance, cover the head, neck, sides, rump, and tail. By this natural defensive covering being jointed, the creature has a power of moving itself beneath its armour.

THESE shells might be sufficient to defend the Armadillo from a feeble, but not a powerful antagonist. Nature has, therefore, furnished the Armadillo with a method of withdrawing the whole body under covert of his armour. Thus, like the hedge-hog and porcupine, they are defended from danger without flight, or resistance, and becomes invulnerable while they are threatened with danger.

## H A R E.

**T**HIS weak and defenceless creature, is the most persecuted of animals. But to countenance its danger, it is remarkably timid and cautious, which makes it perpetually attentive to every alarm. That it may be apprized of distant danger, so as to effect a timely escape, nature has provided it with such long ears as convey sounds almost like speaking-trumpets. And to enable it still more to perceive its danger, the eyes are so prominent as to be capable of discerning objects almost behind them. It is so watchful as to sleep with the eyes open. And as it depends on flight for its safety, the muscles are strong, and without fat; so that the animal has no superfluous burthen to impede its fleetness, which still to increase, nature has provided it with long legs.

NATURAL





# NATURAL HISTORY.

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## B I R D S.

### THEIR GENERAL NATURE.

**DESIGN.** **P**ROVIDENCE designed birds to inhabit the regions of the air, which would otherwise have lost a great part of its utility.

**FORM.** Their body is sharp before to facilitate its passage through their native element. It swells gradually until it is aided by the full expansion of its tail, which serves, with the aid of the wings, not only to buoy it, but to direct, as a rudder, the flight of the bird.

**PLUMAGE.**

**PLUMAGE.** They are covered with feathers, which are most admirably adapted for the air they chiefly inhabit. These feathers being composed of a quill that contains a considerable quantity of air, and a shaft which is edged on each side with the most volatile substance, render the body considerably lighter than the air, when the wings are expanded. Thus is the bird enabled to command an expansive element as a territory, which is denied to every other part of the creation.

**SIGHT.** To adapt their sight to their swift motion, through the aerial regions, their eyes are not so convex or prominent as those of creatures confined to the earth. This prevents their being injured by the repulsive force of the air, which they must experience in their rapid flights; and likewise renders them, not so liable to be touched with the points of thorns, sprays, leaves, &c. in their progress among the trees, bushes, and hedges. The film, or nictating membrane, with which they occasionally cover their eyes without closing

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ing the lids, is designed to clear and protect them from the glare of summer sun-beams, and from the mist, fogs and clouds, with which the air at some times abound, when they are forced to range it for food, or nesting. The power they have of particularly extending the optic nerve, gives their sight such an acuteness, that it perceives objects more clearly, and at a greater distance than any other part of the creation.

HEARING. They have the power of distinguishing sounds, without any external ear, which would have impeded their flight, and been liable to many injuries in their darting through bushes, briars, &c.

SMELLING. Their scent is very acute and extensive. By this they are apprized of the approach of their natural and artificial enemies. Those who decoy ducks are obliged to keep a piece of burning turf in their mouths, to prevent their being scented by the prey they are endeavouring to surprize.

INTERNAL STRUCTURE. Their bones are formed sufficiently strong to support the system of their body, and

and its functions; and so light as scarcely to be any additional weight to their flesh. All their internal structure is calculated to increase the surface beyond the proportion of the solidity of their bodies, in order to render them lighter than the same portion of air. Their lungs and the ends of their wind-pipe branches imbibe air into a number of bladder receptacles. The crop, which is a repository for superfluous food, was given as a supply in their long flights, and other times of indispensable necessity. The food of birds being in general dry, hard, and crude, they have a gizzard, which, with the help of sand and stony particles they swallow, aid them in the digestion.

**MOLTING.** Although birds from the simplicity of their structure, habitation of air, and perpetual exercise, are subject to less disease than other creatures, yet they are liable to one to which no others are exposed. This is the sickness attending their annual renovation of plumage. It is called their moulting time.



GENERATION. When nature affords abundance of food and clemency of season, birds are stimulated to pair, in order to increase their species. Having chosen their mate for the ensuing year, they proceed to all those official cares that distinguish the approach of being made parents. With all the fondness of such expectancies, they proceed to collect materials for their nests. These being completed according to the nature of the bird, with the skill of the most expert and ingenious architect, the female lays a certain number of eggs, on which she sits or broods, until the heat of her animates and brings forth perfect young from every one that is not addled, or injured in the course of the laying and hatching. The young are no sooner brought into life, than a new weight of cares assail the tender parents. The female no longer is pleased with the sweet notes of her mate. She courts his absence in order to obtain food for her and her nestlings. And as each might be exhausted with the perpetual search for supply, they relieve each other in this indispensable duty. Sometimes, indeed, a scarcity will cause them

both to leave the young to obtain for them a subsistence. When the new brood are fed each has its portion, but not more than once at a time. Thus are the parents employed until the offspring is capable of being ushered as tenants of the ærial region into the possession of their native element.

**HABITATION.** Birds are particularly attached to the place of their nativity. A rook, if undisturbed, will never desert his native grove. The blackbird and red-breast are tenacious of their birth-right, and many of the feathered tribe that emigrate annually from this country, have, by frequent experiments, been known to return to their usual breeding place. The blackbird is attached to his wild-thorn, and the latter to his familiar cottage, which he confidently enters in winter, and fondly nests near in summer. Though apparently mild, yet he will drive all intruders from its limits with the greatest intrepidity and perseverance.

**MIGRATION:** Although this is not a property that may be ranked among those of their general nature, yet as it is a disposition which is found in many species  
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of birds, we could not class among those particulars which distinguish individuals from each other. We hope, therefore, to be excused for inserting it in this part of the work.

MIGRATION is that passage of birds from one climate to another, according as they are impelled by fear, hunger, or change of season. Many have been the conjectures and relations of naturalists and travellers respecting this extraordinary conduct in such birds as the cuckoo, turtle, stork, crane, quail, goat-sucker, woodcock, swallow, nightingale, black-cap, wheat-ear, stone-chat, winter-chat, willow-wren, white-throat, ctotoli, fly-catcher, wild-duck, plovers, cranes, &c. Some have supposed those birds who were not strong enough to sustain a long flight over expanding oceans, collected themselves in bodies and repaired to chasms in rocks, or sought a temporary tomb beneath the waters, where they remained in a torpid state, until nature more clement should recal them to exercise again their reviving functions. Others have more rationally imagined they actually sought climes more

congenial to their nature and subsistence, where cold and scarcity rendered the country of their sojournment dangerous to their nature, or inconvenient to their enjoyments. The times of their departure and return are exceedingly regular. In the course of five years, the average of both has not exceeded more than a single day. Those tribes who have not strength to extend their flights over vast deserts and immense oceans, are formed by nature to find accommodation in climes not so distant. Such are swallows, martins, &c. They are very properly imagined to find a winter subsistence in the southern countries of Europe, where the clemency of the season hospitably invites their visits when ours become too frigid and barren for existence, as well as necessities. We should rather imagine every bird of passage visits a country which the revolting seasons adapt alternately congenial to its constitution.

It has been observed that some birds, which are migratory in particular climates, are constant inhabitants in others. HERODOTUS relates, that there are a species of swallows which perpetually abide in Egypt. This must

must arise from the little difference of weather caused by the change of season in that part of Africa. We imagine, therefore, this property is not peculiar to any species of bird, but is rather caused by the nature of the country and climate where they are bred, always affording sufficient accommodation for their sustenance and enjoyment. For in Cayan, Java, and other warm climates those birds which are uniformly migratory in the cold regions of Norway, North America, and Kamschatka, are constant residents through every change of season. The manner in which they depart is too curious to be unnoticed. They generally range themselves in a column like an I, or in two lines resembling the two sides of a wedge. When they have taken flight one particular bird commences leader. He continues some distance when he is relieved by another. In this progress of emigrating, several particulars occur to excite our wonder at this surprising phenomenon, and our veneration of that immensity of wisdom which has formed these birds with so extraordinary an instinct. Who acquainted the young with the time, the place,



and necessity of departure? Who encourages them to exchange the place of their nativity for a strange country? Who causes the imprisoned bird to feel its captivity when the moment of emigration arrives? Who is the herald to assemble these feathered voyagers and travellers? Who forbids one to depart before the time appointed? Who formed their charts or who supplied them with a compass, by which they direct themselves over the pathless waste and trackless ocean? Or who is their guide to those islands and countries where they can rest and recruit themselves, so as to enable them to reach their destined sojournment? As these questions are all to be referred to the forming hand of their creator, we cannot avoid learning this lesson of humility, that whatever is the boast of human reason, it vanishes when compared with this wonderful instinct of emigrative power in birds.

## CLASSES OF BIRDS.

ACCORDING to Linnæus, birds are divided into the following six classes:—The rapacious kind, the pie kind, the poultry kind, the sparrow kind, the duck kind, and the crane kind. Land birds comprehend the four first classes, and water birds the two latter.

I. RAPACIOUS KIND. These are such carnivorous birds as live by preying on others, or eating the flesh of dead animals.

II. PIE KIND. This class of birds is distinguished by their miscellaneous food, and their females being fed by the males during their time of breeding.

III. POULTRY KIND. Their bodies are fat and muscular, their flesh white and pure. Strangers to any attachment, they are, unlike other birds, promiscuous in the choice of their mates.

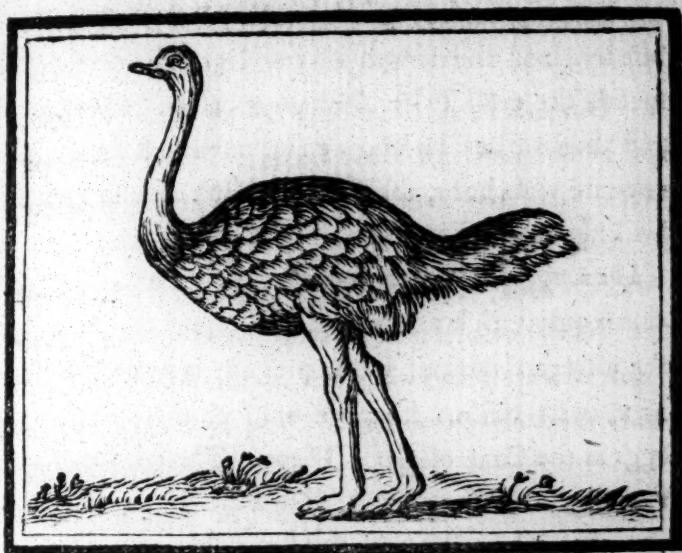
IV. SPARROW KIND. The vocal and beauteous birds compose mostly the sparrow kind. Part of them live on grain, and others on insects. During the time

of their being raised, they are remarkably fond and faithful.

V. DUCK KIND. The bills of this class of birds, serve as strainers for their food. Their toes being webbed form their feet for swimming in waters where they mostly reside.

VI. CRANE KIND. This class of the feathered race, has the bill formed so long and penetrating, as to be able to search for food at the bottom of waters, near which they chiefly reside. Their necks and legs are proportionable in length. Their thighs are scantily feathered, their skin is thick, their tail short, and their flesh is savory. They mostly build their nests on the ground.

HAVING described the particulars which distinguish the six classes of birds, as divided by LINNÆUS, we shall begin the description of birds as individuals, with those few that cannot be ranged systematically, such as the ostrich, cassowar, condour, dodo, &c. Being extraordinary large, and incapable of perfectly flying, is the reason they deviate too much from every bird of which the six classes are composed.



## O S T R I C H.

**T**HIS bird, according to WILLUGHBY, and other naturalists, is one of the largest in the world. Her head, which resembles that of a duck, rises above the height of a man on horseback. Her body is like the camels. She has two short wings, which, although excessively strong, are not expansive enough to buoy  
her

her from the surface of the earth. But with their assistance, and the length of her legs, she exceeds, in speed, the most swift Arabian coursers. She has legs and thighs like a heron, and each foot has three claws covered with horn, the elastic strength of which greatly facilitates and increases her flight.

HER eggs are larger than the head of an infant, and commonly weigh as much as fifteen pounds. Although the disregard of their future progeny is denied by HOBEN, who affirms, that he has seen them sit on their eggs at the Cape of Good Hope. Though she deserts them by day, she always, like other birds, returns to them at night. This we think may be dictated to them by nature, from the climate at the Cape being such as to acquire the heat of the brooding bird. But in those parts of Africa that are nearer the equator, we conceive they do, as reported, leave their eggs to be hatched by the sun, but not without the precaution of covering them in the sand, and bringing worms and other provisions for the young at the time of hatching; for in birds,

as



as in every other creature, we find nature conforms to the necessity of the soil and climate they are destined to inhabit. The ignorance and simplicity of the Ostrich is particularly observable, in her supposing, when she only hides her head, the rest of her body is secreted and secured from the hunters.

THE amazing power she has of digesting the most crude substances of stones, iron, &c. evinces the wisdom of the Creator, in giving this bird such a faculty as turns to nutriment those things which her barren and native deserts afford for her subsistence.

THIS bird seems to fill one of those voids there are in nature, between the quadruped and the feathered race, as the bat does another. The Ostrich resembles the camel in the same proportion as the bat does the mouse.

To the beauty of her plumage, she owes her destruction. But in return she triumphs over man; for the feathers her death affords her pursuers, attend the hearse of man to the grave.

THE



## THE CASSOWAR

**I**S found in the southern parts of the East Indies. It is about five feet and half high. The wings are so small, as to be scarcely perceptible. On its head, it has a crest three inches high resembling an helmet. Every feather of this bird is adapted for flight. None are entirely destined for covering. The extremities of  
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the feathers are armed with five prickles, the longest of which is eleven inches. It is described to have the head of a warrior, the eye of a lion, the defence of a porcupine, and the fleetness of a courser. Although thus provided for defence or hostility, it is so inoffensive a creature as never to attack another. Its progressive motion is so singular as to be neither walking, running, hopping, jumping, or flying; for it kicks up one leg behind, and bounds forward with the other with such velocity as to outspeed the swiftest racer.

THIS bird, like the ostrich, is extremely voracious of all things capable of passing its swallow. The Dutch assert, that it not only devours glass, iron, and stones, but even burning coals, without the least fear or injury. The Cassowar is supposed to be not so prolific as the ostrich, from its being more scarcely found. This deficiency in their number may be more owing to their native place being more usurped by man, than from any defect of fecundity; for its natural armour and digestive

gestive faculty evince that it is destined for the desert, and not for the plains of cultivation. So that, like other wild animals, when they have disputed in vain with man, the possession of their own territories, this bird may have withdrawn to other parts where it enjoys the solitary desert, for which it is peculiarly formed by nature.





## THE D O D O.

THE inactive appearance of the Dodo, seems to fill another void between beasts and birds, which is that between the sloth, and a more active individual than itself of the feathered tribe. Its body is almost round, excessively massive, and covered with grey feathers. The legs resemble the pillars of a fixed building,



ing, but not sufficiently strong to support it. The neck is thick, and the head has two wide chaps which open beyond the eyes. The bill is extremely long and thick, and resembles two pointed spoons laid on the back of each other. It has a stupid and voracious physiognomy. In a word it is a complete picture of sluggish deformity.

LIKE the sloth it is incapable of defence or flight. It is a native of the isle of France, where it was first found by the Dutch. Some assert the flesh is nauseous, while others contend it is palatable and wholesome. Three or four Dodos suffice to dine one hundred sailors. It is thought by some travellers, to be the same as the bird of Nazareth. The description of both being exactly similar.

THIS seems to be an entire exception to the general nature of birds, both in appearance and activity. Except the night birds, such as owls, &c. there is scarcely any one but is agreeable in its form, and remarkably

alert

alert in its mobility. But this appears formed to disgust the spectator, and to be almost an immoveable burlesque of the bird creation. Were we to give our opinion of the final cause of creating so unseemly an animal, we should say, that it was formed as a foil to the various beauties discovered in the rest of the feathered tribe.





## THE GOLDEN EAGLE.

**I**S in length about three feet nine inches, and in breadth eight spans. The bill is very strong, sharp, and crooked. The eye has four lids to cover or guard it from excessive light, and external injuries. The toes are covered with scales, and the claws are exceedingly strong and formidable. This bird is found in the mountainous

mountainous parts of Ireland, where its fierceness has been observed to be so great as to attack a cat, dog, sheep, &c. It laying seldom more than two eggs, shews that providence thus prevents too large an increase of what may prove offensive, if not destructive to the possessions of mankind. Some of these birds have been found in Wales.

THE male engages in the maintenance of the young for the first three months, when the female undertakes and continues in this employment until the brood are capable of providing for themselves. The Eagle flies the highest of all birds, and is therefore, called the bird of heaven. BOCHART asserts that it lives a century, and that they increase in bulk until the period of death. Such is their thirst for rapine and slaughter, that they never drink any other liquid but blood unless they are sick. This king of birds is said to have only the swan among his subjects who dare resist him. All the others, and even the dragon, tremble at his terrific cry. Not contented with preying on birds, and the

smaller beasts, the Eagle will plunge into seas, lakes, and rivers for fish. His sight is more acute than that of any other bird. He carries the young on his back to secure them from the fowler. His feathers are renovated every ten years, which greatly increases his vigour, as expressed in the beautiful simile of DAVID, "Thy youth shall be renewed like that of the eagle." The Eagle that would not quit the corpse of PYRRHUS who had brought him up from a nestling, evinces this bird is capable of attachment and gratitude.

THERE are sixteen other sorts of Eagles, namely, the Sun Eagle, bold Eagle, ring Eagle, black Eagle, the osprey bird, crowned Eagle, common Eagle, white Eagle, rough-footed Eagle, Emu, Juan le Blanc, Brazilian Eagle, Oroonoko Eagle, Eagle of Pondicherry, Morpnas or Conguror Eagle, Vultusine Eagle,





## THE CONDOUR OF AMERICA.

IT is doubtful whether this bird is more allied to the eagle or the vulture. Its force and vivacity resemble the former while the baldness of its head and neck are like the latter. No bird can compare with it for size, strength, rapacity, and rapidity of flight. It is, therefore, more formidable than the eagle to birds,

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beasts,

beasts, and even to mankind. The rarity of this pernicious and destructive bird, is another instance of the care providence has taken to balance the increase of animals in proportion to their utility or ferocious propensity; for were the Condour as prolific or as common as others of the feathered tribe, it would spread universal devastation.

ACCORDING TO SIR HANS SLOANE, one was shot by Capt. STRONG, not far from Mecha, an island in the south seas on the coast of Chili. It was sitting on a cliff on the shore. The wings, when extended, measured from each extremity 16 feet. One of its feathers, now in the British museum, is 2 feet 4 inches long; the quill part five inches and three quarters, and one inch and half in circumference. Its weight was three drachms, seventeen grains and half. The colour is a dark brown.

ACCORDING TO GARCILASIO DE LA VAGA, several of them have been killed by the Spaniards, who found they measured in general from wing to wing fifteen  
teen

teen or sixteen feet. To prevent the too fatal exercise of their fierceness, nature has denied them such talons as she has given to the eagle. They have only claws as harmless as a hen. Their beaks are, however, strong enough to tear off the hide, and penetrate the bowels of an ox. Two of them are frequently known to attack and devour a cow or bull. It has often happened that a boy of ten years of age has nearly fallen their prey. The Spanish inhabitants of Chili are, therefore, in continual dread of these birds devouring their children in their absence. To allure them, they present the form of a child made of very glutinous clay, on which they dart with such rapidity, and penetrate so deeply with their beaks that they cannot disengage themselves. The Indians assert they will seize and bear aloft a deer or a young calf, as easy as eagles do a hare or a rabbit.

NATURE apprizes all of its approach, by causing it to make so great a noise with its wings as almost to oc-

caſion deafneſs. The body is as large as a ſheep, and as diſagreeable as carrion. Thus man is not ſuffered to loſe any food from the wiſe and providential ſcarcity of this terrific and devouring creature. Foreſts not affording room for its flight, are never infeſted with his depredations. They moſtly dwell in mountains, and viſit the ſhores at night, when rain or tempeſt drive their ſinny prey thither for ſhelter.





## THE KING OF THE VULTURES.

**T**HIS bird differs from the eagle in its indelicate voracity, and preying more upon carrion than live animals. This disposition seems wisely designed by providence to prevent the nauseous and epidemical effects that might arise from carcases being left to putrify on the earth. Its preying upon the eggs of the crocodiles, who



who lay each of them at least two or three hundred in the sands, is another dispensation which prevents too great an increase of so destructive an animal.

IN form, they are distinguished from the eagle mostly by the nakedness of their heads and necks. Not destined to prey particular on living birds, &c. their flight is not so swift as eagles, falcons, and hawks. But as they are allured by putrefaction to their prey, their sense of smelling is proportionably exquisite. The Vulture is happily a stranger to England, while it is found in Arabia, Egypt, and many other kingdoms of Africa and Asia. They have a down under the wings which is frequently sold as a valuable fur in the African markets.

IN Egypt the Vultures are so serviceable as to be permitted to flock, near Grand Cairo, where they devour the carrion of that great city, which might, otherwise, be liable to frequent pestilencies.

VULTURES are, likewise, serviceable in countries where the savage hunters pursue and destroy animals  
only

only for their skins: these birds attend them and devour the bodies before they lie long enough to corrupt the air. They eat so voraciously as to be unable to fly. But when attacked, they have the power of lightening their stomachs, so as to render them capable of effecting their escape.

IN this tribe is ranged the golden, ash-coloured, and brown Vultures, natives of Europe; the spotted and the black Vultures found in Egypt; the Brazilian Vulture; and the king of the Vultures in South America.

THE king of the Vultures resembles a turkey-cock. It is remarked for the uncommon formation of the skin, which covers the head and neck, for it is featherless. A scarlet coloured skin surrounds the eyes which have a pearl coloured Iris. Although it is, thus distinguished from the rest of their deformed family, its habits are equally disgusting, cowardly, and indolent.

The mythologists have expressed their sense of the evils they supposed brought on the world by their fabulous

bulous deities, MARS and JUNO, by having consecrated the Vulture to those divinities.

THE flight and cry of these birds being particularly observed and attended to by the Roman augurs, must have arisen from their considering where those rapacious animals were most inclined to direct their flight, from a previous sense they had of an approaching slaughter, which the Romans flattered themselves was to ensue of the enemies they were preparing to engage.





## THE FALCON.

THE dignified sport of falconry that formerly distinguished the recreation of the English nobility, has been long discontinued. A person of rank scarcely appeared without his falcon, which in old paintings now serves as the criterion of titular distinction. HAROLD and HENRY VI. are both remarked to be painted with falcons

falcons in ancient tablatures. To wind a horn, and to carry with grace a falcon, were then the marks of being well-bred. Learning was left for the study of children born in a more humble sphere. In the reign of JAMES I. Sir THOMAS MONSEN gave a thousand pounds for a cast of hawks. A person unqualified, taking the egg of an hawk, even on his own ground, was imprisoned a year and a day, and fined at the pleasure of the king. EDWARD III. made it felony to steal a hawk. The mark which distinguishes the generous hawk, from the baser race of kites, sparrow hawks, and buzzards, is the second feather of the former's being the longest, which is in the latter the fourth. The superior race possess natural powers of which the inferior are destitute. They pursue their game with more swiftness and confidence, and from their generosity of temper, they are so attached to their feeders as to be capable of being made exceedingly tractable. Of all birds, the hawk or falcon pursues the heron, kite, and woodlark, from flying perpendicularly upward, and afford the greatest diversion:



version: the other birds flying horizontally diminishes the pleasure of the sportsman, and endangers the loss of his hawk.

THE Norwegian breed of hawks was anciently much esteemed in this country, they were thought worthy the acceptance of royalty. King JOHN being presented with two by JEFFRY FITZPEENE, allowed his friend to export one hundred weight of cheese. JOHN, the son of ORDEAR, obtained the interest of RICHARD I. by the present of one Norway hawk.\*



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\* Madox Antiq. Excheq. 329, 332.



## THE GYR-FALCON.

**T**HIS species exceeds all other falcons in size and elegance. It is nearly as large as an eagle. The bill is hooked, yellow, and the plumage is mostly white. The feathers of the back and wings have black spots in the shape of hearts. The thighs are clothed with long feathers of the purest white. The legs are yellow and feathered

feathered below the knees. This bird is sometimes found entirely white. It was used in the sport of Falconry to fly at the noblest game, such as cranes and herons.

Of this specie of birds may be classed the Peregrina Falcon, the Banbury Falcon, the Sacre, the Mountain Falcon, Grey Falcon, White Falcon, Tunis or Barbary Falcon, and the

FALCON GENTLE. This bird is known from the other Falcons, by the neck being surrounded with a light yellow ring. A French author has observed that Falcons are differently named according to the time of their being taken as follow :

Falcons taken in June, July, & Aug. are called Gentle.

———— Sept. Oct. Nov. and Dec. — Pilgrims.

———— Jan. Feb. and March, — Hagar,

from the the Hebrew word, which signifies a stranger.



## G O S H A W K.

**T**HIS bird is larger than the common buzzard. Its form is longer and more elegant. The breast and belly are white, and beautifully streaked with transverse lines of black and white. This species, and the Sparrow Hawk are distinguished by the name of short-winged Hawks,

Hawks, from their wings, when closed, not reaching so far as the end of the tail. This bird was much esteemed, and taught by Falconers, to pursue cranes, wild geese, pheasants, and patridges.

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## K I T E.

THE Kite differs from all the rest of the species, by his forked tail, slow, floating motion, and being almost perpetually on the wing. Instead of using his wings when flying, he appears to rest on the bosom of the air. PLINY supposes the invention of the rudder is owing to mankind having noticed the Kite's mode of using its tail to direct its flight. Every bird in the air being capable of escaping their pursuit, Kites are obliged to subsist on accidental carnage, which they devour like a famished savage, without the least mercy or moderation.



THEIR hunger often makes them desperate. They sometimes attack a brood of chickens.

THIS bird usually breeds in large forests or woody mountains. The hen lays two or three eggs, which, like those of other birds of prey, are larger at the narrow end than those laid by the other species. Lord BACON observed, that fine and dry weather is portended by the high flight of this bird. It has falsely been reckoned among the birds of passage. Its length is twenty-seven inches, its breadth five feet, and its weight forty-four ounces. As this bird possesses no peculiarity of plumage, we omit giving an uninteresting detail of its feathers. We have only to observe that they sometimes differ in their colour, for some are entirely tawny, while others are somewhat variegated.



## COMMON BUZZARD.

**T**HIS bird is remarkably inactive. It will frequently remain a whole day on the same bough. Frogs, mice, and insects are its chief sustenance. The reason of preferring these, seems from his rather choosing to content himself with this inferior prey, than be at the trouble of flying after birds. In summer he lives by robbing nests and sucking the eggs. He resembles the owl in countenance more than any other bird of day. Should the hen Buzzard be killed, the cock will hatch and rear the young. He breeds in large woods, and usually builds in a crow's nest. The young accompany the old ones some little time after they can fly, which distinguishes them from all other birds of prey. He is subject to vary in his plumage. Some have brown breasts and bellies, and some are only marked on the breast with a white crescent. They are

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about

about twenty-two inches long, two wide, and thirty-two ounces in weight. There are besides of the Buzzard, or Hawk kind, the Honey, Moor, and Turkey Buzzard, the Hen-harrier, Kestrel and Hobby.

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#### S P A R R O W H A W K.

**T**HERE is a great difference in size between the male and female of this bird. The latter nearly weighs twice as much as the former. They vary considerably in their plumage. But the back, head, coverts of the wings, and tail are mostly of a blue grey. This bird makes great depredations among pigeons and partridges. The Sparrow Hawk was greatly venerated by the Egyptians. They chose it as the representative of their god Osiris. To kill one of them was punished with death. The Greeks consecrated this bird to Apollo. It was one of the symbols of Opera, from its fixed and piercing sight, resembling the jealous observance of that goddess.

MERLIN

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THE MERLIN

IS the smallest of Hawks. It is not much larger than a thrush. It has been known to kill quails, and partridges, displays such courage as to render it as formidable as birds of six times his magnitude.

THE female of this species is like that of all other birds of prey, considerably larger than the male. This bird was known to our ancestors by the name of Lmyfden.

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THE GRATA BUTCHER BIRD

LEADS a life of perpetual hostility. It is about the size of a black-bird. From its carnivorous appetite, it participates of the nature of birds of prey, and from its slender legs, feet, and toes being different from the former, it partakes of the nature of those birds that live

upon grain, insects, &c. When it has killed its prey, it hangs it upon a thorn, as a butcher hangs a carcass, and then pulls it in pieces with his bill. Its usual food is small birds, which they seize by the throat and strangle in an instant. The old and young seek their prey in concert. It is ten inches long, fourteen broad, and three ounces in weight. The back and covert of the wings are ash colour. Each side of the head is white.

**RED BACKED BUTCHER BIRD.** The head and the lower part of the back are of a fine light grey. The breast, belly, and side are of an elegant blossom colour.

**WOOD CHAT.** This bird weighs about two ounces. The bill is the colour of horn. The upper parts of the back, wings, and tail are dusky. The throat, breast, and belly are of a cream colour.

**LEAST BUTCHER BIRD.** Although it is not much larger than a titmouse, it is a bird of prey. The head is of a fine grey, and beneath each eye is a tuft of black feathers.

OWL.





## O W L.

THE rapacious birds of the day being described, we proceed to those of the night. This species are equally cruel and more treacherous. To fill the chain of nature, these birds of prey employ the night in their devastations, and thus prevent any chasm in the round  
of

of time, being employed in either self-defence, or depredation. Owls are distinguished from all other birds by having eyes adapted more for the purposes of darkness than of light. Like tigers and cats who subsist by their nocturnal watchfulness, Owls have a sight that is capable of discernal, in what man would conceive to be total darkness. They, however, by no means, as some have falsely imagined, see best in total darkness. When the light is a medium between the glare of day, and the gloom of night, is the time Owls perceive with the most perspicuity. More light is, therefore, most adapted for their nocturnal pursuits. But in the different species of Owls, the faculty of sight greatly differs.

THEIR note is hideous. Such is the antipathy of small birds to the Owl, that when one appears by day-light in a grove, all the feathered inhabitants surround, insult, and beat him. So great is the utility of this disgusting bird, that one will be more serviceable than six cats in destroying the vermin of a barn.

As a subject of vigilance, the Owl was consecrated to MINERVA. The Owl seems to fill that chasm between quadrupeds and the feathered race, which is observed between the cat and birds.

THE GREAT HORNED OWL is nearly as large as an eagle. He has some feathers that rise from his head. These he can elevate or lower at pleasure. The back and coverts of the wings are varied with deep brown and yellow. It usually breeds in a cavern, a hollow tree, or a ruined castle. Its nest is nearly three feet in diameter. This species is sometimes found in Cheshire, Wales, and the north of England.

LESSER HORNED OWL. The wings are so long as to reach when closed beyond their tails. The feathers of the head, back, and covert of the wings are brown, edged with yellow. The tip of the tail is white. There is a smaller kind of the horned Owl, not much larger than a thrush.

WHITE OWL. This bird is the most domestic. The colour of it being mostly white, is the cause of its being called the White Owl.

BROWN

**BROWN OWL.** The head, wings and back, of this bird, are of a deep brown, elegantly spotted with black, It remains the whole day in the woods, which it inhabits.

**LITTLE OWL.** This bird is remarkable for its elegance, and not being much larger than a thrush. The back and covert of the wings are of a deep olive.

**SCREECH OWL** has blue eyes, and a cion grey plumage.



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BIRDS OF THE POULTRY KIND.

**T**HIS species are distinguished for being the most harmless, and the most serviceable to man. He may compel the rapacious tribes to assist his pleasures in the field, or induce the warblers to delight him with their songs, but he can never obtain from those domestic advantages he desires from the poultry kind, which not only considerably supply the necessaries of life, but furnish man with his greatest dainties.

MOST of them that we have in a domestic state, are of foreign origin. There are many others that still live in their first state of nature. We have greatly increased the tame poultry, we have imported from distant climates. But those wild birds of the poultry kind that have never yet been domesticated, are perpetually diminished by their constant destruction.

BIRDS of the poultry kind have white flesh, and very large bodies compared with their limbs. Their bills  
are



are short and strong, for the purpose of picking up grain which is their chief food. And as they are not destined for distant flight, they have short and concave wings. They lay a number of eggs, and lead their young abroad the instant they are hatched. They usually make their nests on the ground, although they roost on perches. Their toes, as far as the first articulation, are united by a membrane. We may, therefore, rank under this class, the Common Cock, Peacock, Turkey, Guinea Hen, Pheasant, Bustard, Grouse, Partridge, and Quail. All these are fleshy, granivorous, and delicate to the taste.



COCK.



C O C K.

OF all birds, the Cock seems to have been the first reclaimed from the forest to gratify the luxury and amusement of man. This bird, in its domestic state, is liable to many differences! There is a specie in Japan, that seem to be covered with hair instead of

of feathers. These varieties evince the length of time they have endured captivity ; for all these departures from their original characteristic arises from the mixture of breeds caused by their being brought from different countries, and allowed to corrupt, instead of improving the stock. It is generally acknowledged the Cock was brought from Persia, but when, is not ascertained. This bird has been, however, so long in this country, that it was one of the forbidden foods among the antient Britons. They are now so natural to this country, that were they not sometimes found in the islands of the India ocean, we should doubt, not only whether they were natural to any other country, but whether they ever enjoyed a state of wild, but natural liberty. The Cock was called by ARISTOPHANES, the Persian bird, to shew the right country where it was produced.

No creature is so courageous when opposed to his own species, especially if it be for the possession of his hens.

To his bravery, even princes themselves in different parts of the world have, to their shame, owed their amusement. Heathens might have fallen into this error. But that Christians, who profess themselves the patrons of compassion, can take delight in setting these unoffending animals to destroy each other, we can only attribute to a barbarous propensity in human nature, which we cannot but lament.

OF the Cock, there are two other distinguished species, called the Bantam and Hamburgh Cocks.



E M

PEACOCK.



P E A C O C K.

**T**HE Italians, not unaptly, observe that this bird has the plumage of an angel, the voice of a demon, and the appetite of a thief. It first came from India. They are still found in vast flocks in the islands of Ceylon and Java. The beauty of this bird first deprived

it



it of its liberty, and is, therefore, a demonstration that beauty is not only destructive to the human, but the animal possessor. So early as the days of SOLOMON, apes and peacocks we find among the articles imported from Tarshish.\* They were so much esteemed by the Grecians, that a male and female were worth above 500. sterling. When they were first introduced into Greece, they were made a public exhibition. HORTENSIVS, the orator, was the first who served them up as a table entertainment. They were, afterwards, considered as the first of viands, and one of the greatest ornaments of the feast. But soon after, their palatable fame declined; for FRANCIS the first served them up in their plumage, as an exhibition, but not as a dainty.

To describe the Peacock as concise as possible, we have only to observe that, the head, neck, and beginning of the breast are of a deep blue. On the crown is a tuft of green feathers. They have a tail, which they spread with all the vanity of a conceited beauty.

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Nothing

\* 1 Kings x. 22.

Nothing can possibly equal the charming assemblage of colour the tail displays. Not all the colours of the rainbow afford more splendour than the eye of one feather. The gold, chesnut, green, and blue of each eye are so happily disposed as to form the finest harmony as well as contrast of colour that can possibly be conceived. The bird himself is so sensible of this distinguished array, that he is never so proud as when he exhibits this unrivalled pencilling of the Divine Artist, to whom he is indebted for his form and existence.



PHEASANT.



PHEASANT.

SUCH is the beautiful plumage of this bird, that many esteem it next to the peacock. CRÆSUS, king of Lydia, when seated on his throne, arrayed in all the splendour of the East, asked SOLON, if he had ever seen any thing so fine. The philosopher replied that,

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having.

having seen a Pheasant, he could be astonished at no other finery.

THE Pheasant is certainly most beautiful and elegant. But still there are many birds in the creation, that can vie, as well as the peacock, with it in plumage. Its chief beauties are, the eyes being yellow, surrounded with scarlet, sprinkled with black spots; on the fore part of the head, black feathers mixed with a glossy purple; the top of the head, and the upper part of the neck, tinged with a darkish shining green; the back, sides, breast, and shoulders of a black colour, that changes to purple, according to the site of the spectator, and under the purple a transverse stroke of gold colour.

THE tail is about eighteen inches long, the legs, feet, and toes are of a horn colour. Two of the toes are connected by a membrane.

THIS bird is not only beautiful to the eye, but it is extremely delicate to the taste. But as if it disdained the commerce of man, it has left him, to take shelter

shelrer in the thickest woods and remotest forests. To its unlimited freedom may, therefore, be attributed the fine flavour of its flesh.

BESIDE the Pheasant bred in the country, there are the Horned-Indian, Red China, White China, Peacock, and Brazilian Pheasants.



**BUSTARD.**





## B U S T A R D.

**T**HIS is the largest native land bird in Britain. The male weighs, at a medium rate, twenty-five pounds. It is about nine feet broad, and four feet long. The neck and head are ash coloured, and the back is barred transversely with black, bright, and rust colour. The

The greater quill feathers are black, the belly white, and the tail, consisting of twenty feathers, is marked with broad stripes of red and black ; the legs are of a dusky colour.

THE female is about half the size of the male. The Bustard was much more numerous in Britain than it is at present. This decrease in the species, has been owing to the increased cultivation of the country, and the extreme delicacy of its flesh, which has induced the sportsman to revel in its destruction. But what still more has caused its present scarcity is, the bird being incapable, from its size and slow flight, of escaping the aim of the gun. The Bustard now inhabits such open grounds as Salisbury Plains, Newmarket, and Royston Heaths, Dorsetshire uplands, and those of Marsh or Lothian in Scotland.

THEY run very fast, and, although slow in flight, will when on wing, continue their progress without resting for several miles. They take flight with such difficulty that they are frequently run down by greyhounds. The Bustard seldom wanders above twenty

or thirty miles from their haunts. They live on berries that grow on Heaths, and on earth worms that are found on Downs, before sun-rising.

As a security against drought, nature has furnished the males with a pouch, which will contain near seven quarts of water. The male being thus accommodated, may be, most probably, to supply the hen when sitting, or the young, until they can fly.

THEY live about fifteen years, and cannot be rendered domestic, from being incapable of a sufficient supply of the food they delight in ; but when they enjoy their wild existence.

BESIDE the above, there are the Indian and Little Bustard.

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#### B I R D S O F T H E P I E K I N D.

THE pie kind are not formed for war, although they generally delight in mischief. This is characteristic of man, for those of the human species, who delight in wantonly hurting or teasing their neighbours, seldom

seldom possess the nobility of courage. The pie kind perpetually harraßs other birds without shewing the least enmity. Under this class, may be arranged all that noisy, restless, chattering tribe, that from the size of the raven, down to that of the wood-pecker, flutters around our habitations, and with the spirit of pilferers, makes free with the fruits of human industry.

THIS is the class of birds which least contributes to either the pleasures or necessities of man. These birds are as remarkable for their instinct as for their capacity to receive instruction; cunning and archness are observable in the whole tribe. Ravens and crows are taught to fetch and carry with the docility of a spaniel. Although birds of the pie kind differ in some particulars from each other, yet they all agree in having hoarse voices, slender active bodies, and a facility of flight that baffles the boldest of the rapacious birds that pursue them. Of this class we shall select the following few, as the most deserving of our attention.

TOUCAN.



## T O U C A N.

**T**HE size and shape of this bird resembles a Jack Daw. It has a remarkable large head to support a monstrous bill, which from the angles of its mouth to its point, is six inches and a half; the breadth in the thickest part, exceeds two inches. But the bill it-  
self



self is not much thicker than parchment. Some have fallſely thought the Toucan had no noſtrils, from their being almoſt covered with feathers, and placed in the upper part of the bill.

THERE are between the white on the breaſt, and black on the belly, a parcel of red feathers in the form of a crescent, with the horns upwards. The toes are diſpoſed like thoſe of parrots, two before and two behind.

THIS bird is ſo eaſily tamed, that it will hatch its young in houſes. It is ſaid, its food is pepper, which it eats in a very gluttonous manner. Pozzo, who bred one, aſſerts, that it reſembles a magpie, in voice and motion. Naturaliſts ſeem to think that the Toucan uſes his tongue in all thoſe purpoſes in which other birds uſe their bills. The bill, therefore, is very naturally conceived to be only a ſheath for the tongue, which is very large and ſtrong.

THIS bird inhabits only the warm climates of South America, where it is much eſteemed for the delicacy  
of

of its flesh, and the beauty of its plumage. The feathers of the breast are particularly admired by the Indians, who pluck them from this part of the skin, which when dry, they glue to their cheeks as an irresistible addition to female beauty.

WHEN we contemplate the bird creation, we cannot but consider with amazement, how variously nature has formed their bills, wings, feet and bodies according to those natural wants, which the peculiarity of their disposition or situation require. A more striking instance of this, cannot be produced than the bird before our present consideration.



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GREEN WOOD-PECKER.

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OF this bird there are many kinds and varieties in each kind. They form large colonies in the forests of almost every part of the world. The wisdom of Providence in the admirable formation of animals, according to their respective natures, cannot be better illustrated than from this genius.

WOOD-PECKERS, feeding entirely upon insects, and their principal action being necessarily that of climbing up and down the trunks or branches of trees, are provided with a long slender tongue, armed with a sharp bony end, barbed on each side, which, by the assistance of a curious apparatus of muscles, they can dart to a great length into the clefts of the bark, from whence they draw out the lurking insects on which they feed.

WHEN a Wood-pecker discovers a rotten, hollow tree, it cries aloud, which so alarms the insect colony,  
that

that they are immediately put in confusion, while the bird is, thus, more enabled to riot on his prey. This bird destroying the insects, that are found even on trees that are not entirely decayed, may be designed by nature to be the means of restoring them to their pristine vigour. Woodpeckers are, likewise, useful in destroying broods of ants, on which they feed, as well as on wood-worms and insects. To take the ants, the Woodpecker adopts the following curious stratagem. He darts his red tongue into the ant-hill. The ants, from the resemblance, supposing it their usual prey, immediately settle in myriads upon it, when the Woodpecker withdrawing it, devours the devourer.

THE green Wood-pecker is about 13 inches long, 21 broad, and weighs six ounces and half. The bill is hard, strong, and formed like a wedge. Dr. DERHAM, observes, that a neat ridge runs along the top as if an artist had designed it for strength and beauty. The back, neck, and lesser coverts of the wings are green, and the rump is of a pale yellow.

GREAT



### GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER.

**T**HIS bird is about nine inches long, sixteen broad, and two ounces and three quarters in weight. The bill is of a black horn colour, and the forehead of a pale buff colour. The crown of the head is of a glossy black, and the hind part is marked with a rich deep crimson spot. The cheeks are white, bounded beneath by a

IN

black



black line, which passes from the corner of the mouth, and surrounds the hind part of the head. The neck is encircled with black, and the throat and breast are of a yellowish white. The back, rump, coverts of the tail, and lesser coverts of the wings are black. Each of the black quill feathers have their webs elegantly marked with round white spots. The four middle feathers of the tail are black, the next are tipped with dirty yellow, and the ends of the two outermost are black.

The legs are of a red colour. The colours of the female agree with those of the male, except in her not having the beautiful crimson spot he has on his head.

Added to the above, are the lesser spotted, and the Guinea Wood-pecker.





## BIRD OF PARADISE.

**T**HERE are of this species nine sorts, according to some naturalists. But our countryman, Mr. EDWARDS, describe only the three following:—The greater Bird of Paradise, the king of the Birds of Paradise, and the gold Bird of Paradise.

THE Bird of Paradise, described by MOREGRAVE,

is as large as a swallow. The feathers about the beak are as soft as silk; green and brown above, and black below, the top of the neck is of a gold colour. Underneath the neck is a mixture of gold and green; the long feathers on the sides are of a gold colour near the rise, and in other parts of a whitish yellow.

THE king of the Birds of Paradise, mentioned by CLUSIUS is the least of the species.

THE golden Bird of Paradise has a gold-coloured neck, as well as a beak: the feet and toes are yellow; the breast and back of a pale orange colour, and the large feathers on the wings and tail are of a redder orange.

THE opinion of these birds having no feet, has been long since proved a vulgar error. RAY says, their feet are neither short, small, or feeble, but sufficiently large and long, armed with crooked talons; being the members of birds of prey.

THE reflective reader will note, in every instance produced, the great beauty and variety of the creation, which displays in every part to the eye of contemplation,

tion, some new instance of the power, wisdom, and goodness of the divine and almighty architect.

THE Bird of Paradise, which is a native of the Molucca islands, exceeds in beauty every other bird of the pie-kind. So that the groves, which produce the richest spices, produce also the finest birds. The inhabitants, being sensible of the superiority of these birds to all others, call them by the pre-eminent name of God's birds.

THEY emigrate with their king, which is a bird of superior size and plumage. They leave their native country in August, when the stormy season begins, and return when it ends.

THERE are two other Birds of Paradise. One that is found in the island of Ceylon, this has not yet been described by any naturalist. The other is the pied Bird of Paradise, which has a blackish bill, like a duck, and has a tail nearly as long as that of a magpie.



## C U C K O O.

**T**HE note of the Cuckoo is known to all the world, but the history and nature of the bird yet remain to be discovered. Some naturalists have asserted, that it devours its parent, and that it changes its nature with the season, and becomes a sparrow-hawk. But these fables

are



are now sufficiently refuted. It still remains a secret where it resides, and how it subsists in the winter.

THE claw and bill of the Cuckoo are much weaker than those of other rapacious birds. This singular bird is distinguished from all others by the note, and the round prominent nostrils on the surface of the bill. The head, upper part of the body, and the wings are beautifully marked with tawny and black transparent stripes. The legs are very short, and cloathed with feathers down to the feet. It has a large mouth which is yellowish on the inside.

THIS bird is the harbinger of spring, when he returns to glad the husbandman with his wonted note, as a sign of nature resuming her wonted beauty. His note is a call to love, and is used only by the male to invite the female to his embraces. His song continues no longer than the pairing season.

A water-wag tail, or hedge-sparrow generally nurses the young cuckoos that are always unnaturally deserted by their parents.

THE note of the Cuckoo is pleasant but uniform. It owes the power of pleasing us, to that association of ideas which frequently render things agreeable that are not so in themselves. Were we to hear the Cuckoo on the approach of winter, we should think it the most lamentable noise. But as we hear it at the approach of spring, we cannot avoid thinking it the most agreeable note, from its being attached to all those enjoyments with which we know nature is then teeming for our accommodation.

WHERE the Cuckoo retires in winter has baffled every conjecture of the naturalist.

THE length of the Cuckoo is fourteen inches, the breadth twenty-five inches, and the weight five ounces.



CARRIER.

## CARRIER.

TO give some idea of the pigeon tribe, which is, likewise, a part of the pie-kind, we have selected as the most curious and remarkable, the Carrier.

THIS bird, from the superior attachment it evinces to its native place, or present abode, is employed in many places as the most expeditious courier. The Carrier is distinguished from all other pigeons, by their eyes being surrounded with a broad circle of naked white skin, and by being of a dark blue or blackish colour. The upper chap of the bill is also covered with the same kind of skin, which reaches from the base to below the middle.

THESE birds are first brought from the place where they were bred, or where they are kept, whither it is intended to send them back with information. The letter is tied under the wing, and the little animal is let loose to return. It no sooner finds itself at liberty, than its passion for its native spot directs its flight. Upon  
these

these occasions it flies instantly into the clouds to an amazing height, and then, with the greatest speed and certainty, directs itself by some most wonderful instinct towards home, which sometimes is at so great a distance as twenty miles. Thus it brings advices to the persons to whom they are directed with much greater speed than it could, in any other manner, be transmitted. How they discover the place, or by what chart they are guided, is beyond human power to conceive. Certain it is, however, that in the space of one hour and a half, they have, thus, journeyed through the trackless air, forty miles, which the fleetest quadruped would be at least, three times as long in performing.

THIS practice of conveying dispatches was much used in the east. But Dr. RUSSEL informs us, it is entirely abandoned. In our country they have been used as the messenger of fatality, to convey intelligence to the distant friends of a criminal when he was launched into eternity.

IN the east they had relays of pigeons ready to spread intelligence to all parts of the country. ANACREON informs

informs us, that he conveyed his billet-doux to his beautiful BATHYLLUS by a dove.

#### BIRDS OF THE SPARROW KIND.

**D**ESCENDING from the larger to the smaller kinds, we are come to this class, which lives chiefly in the neighbourhood of man, and are its greatest favourites. The poultry kind he considers his friends, but the sparrow kind his servants; for these little painted songsters possess his esteem, which they obtained by their melody or beauty. It is this warbling class that fills his groves with harmony, and elevates his heart to share their raptures. All other birds are either mute or screaming; and it is only this diminutive tribe that have their voices equal to their beauty. All the great birds dread the vicinity of man; but these are in the neighbourhood of cultivation, warbling the hedge-row, or mixing with the poultry in the farm-yard.

They are remarkably brave; for they sometimes

fight



fight until one of them yields up his life with the victory. They all feed at first upon worms and insects. When they arrive at maturity, they feed upon grain. As they devour a pernicious swarm of vermin that destroys the root before the vegetable is full grown, these birds are particularly useful to the gardener and farmer. The best vocal performers of this musical tribe, are the nightingale, thrush, black-bird, lark, red-breast, black-cap, wren, canary-bird, linnet, gold-finch, bull-finch, brambling, yellow-hammer, and theiskin.

As this class is too numerous to be possibly described in this volume, we shall select the most curious of the whole, which is called the humming bird. But to compensate for this necessary omission of the others, we shall annex at the end of this volume, a brief, though particular account of the different foods with which the most delightful singing birds ought to be fed. We hope this useful information to all who delight in keeping these enterprising warblers, will amply recompence the loss of their description.

HUMMING.

## H U M M I N G - B I R D.

**O**F the Humming Bird, there is a great variety. Although this species is the least, it is the most beautiful, inoffensive, and delightful of all others. Humming Birds are from the size of a wren to a humble bee. What a contrast does providence hold in the scale of its workmanship, when it presents the smallest Humming Bird, beside the largest ostrich, which are the extremes of small and large in the feather'd creation!

IN America, they swarm like butterflies, or rather like bees, which they resemble in size, and in their food; for on a summer's day, they range from flower to flower, extracting the sweets on which they subsist. So that in these particulars they seem to connect the insect and bird creation together.

Of this curious species of birds, there are several sorts. The smallest has black feathers on the tail and wings. Those on the body and under the wings are of

a mixture of green and brown, glossed with a beautiful red. The head is adorned with a crest, which is green at the bottom, and of a bright yellow, or gold colour at the top. The bill is black, straight and slender. They have little sparkling black eyes.

THEY are called Humming Birds from the rapid motion of their wings making such a noise. Their nest, which is not larger than half the size of a hen's egg, is curiously suspended at the point of twigs of an orange, citron, or pomegranate tree.

LABAT asserts, their feeble voices produce a most pleasing melancholy melody.

THEIR plumage was formerly used by the Indians in adorning their belts and head-dresses. But, at present, they take the bird rather to sell it as a curiosity, than to depose it of its feathers.

Of this class there are the larger humming bird, long-tail'd black-cap'd humming bird, the little humming bird with a crooked bill, another with a black bill, the green humming bird, and the ash-coloured ditto.

STARLING.



## STARLING.

**T**HIS bird having acquired a peculiar popularity from the amiable pen of Sterne,\* we cannot avoid giving a short description of it as another bird of the sparrow kind.

THE Stare or Starling, may be distinguished from the

\* See Sterne's Sentimental Journey, page 94.

the rest of the sparrow tribe, by the glossy green of its feathers in some lights, and the purple in others. The weight of the male species is above three ounces, which is rather less in the female. The feathers on the head, neck, and upper part of the breast are black, which is varied with a colour that changes to a beautiful green, or purple, according to the different situation of the observer. Its hoarse voice is compensated by its faculty of speech. Starlings assemble in vast flocks in winter, and feed upon worms and insects. At the approach of spring, they meet in fields, and, while in consultation, seem to take no nourishment for several days. The majority leave the country, the rest breed here. It is greatly admired for its aptness in imitating the human voice. A Starling being judiciously taught, frequently sells for five or six guineas. They are taken at about ten days old, and may be fed in the same manner as young blackbirds.





## THE GREAT TITMOUSE.

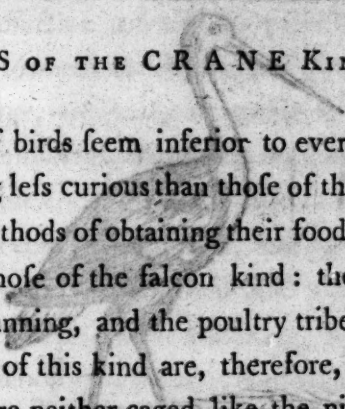
**T**HIS bird is also called the ox-eye. It is six inches long, nine broad, and weighs half an ounce. The bill is black, straight, and about half an inch long. The tongue is broad, and ends in four filaments. The head and throat are black, the cheeks white, and the back and covert of the wings green. The quill-feathers are dusky,

dusky, and tip with blue and white. The lesser coverts are blue, and the greater are tip with white. The tail is about two inches and a half long, of a black colour edged with blue.

ALTHOUGH our gardens are sometimes visited by this bird, it chiefly inhabits woods, where it makes its nest in hollow trees, and lays nine or ten eggs. This and all its tribe prey on those insects which they find in trees. Thus we perceive that birds are formed not only to delight us with their song and feathers, but, likewise, to serve us by destroying those vermin that injure our rustic possessions. But as there is no enjoying a convenience without some alloy, these birds frequently injure our fruit gardens, by destroying the tender buds. Like wood-peckers, they are perpetually running up and down the trunks of trees in pursuit of their food.

BIRDS

## BIRDS OF THE CRANE KIND.



THIS class of birds seem inferior to every other in their nests, being less curious than those of the sparrow-kind, and the methods of obtaining their food being less ingenious than those of the falcon kind: the pie kind excel them in cunning, and the poultry tribe are more prolific. None of this kind are, therefore, protected by man; they are neither caged like the nightingale, nor kept tame like the turkey. They lead a precarious life in fens and marshes, or on the borders of seas and lakes. They live upon fish and insects, and as they are obliged to wade in water and marshy places, nature has provided them with long legs, to keep their bodies dry and clean, and long necks to dive or search among the marshes for their prey.

Those that feed upon insects are eatable.

TO

STORK.



## S T O R K.

**T**HIS bird being similar to the crane, but somewhat more remarkable in figure and disposition, we have chosen rather to describe it. This bird is white and brown in feather, and has flat nails like those of a man. It makes no other noise than the clacking of its under chap against the upper. Contrary to the general disposition

position of universal nature, the stork has as much, if not more filial affection towards its parents, than paternal affection towards its offspring. The old Storks declining with age, and being incapable of sufficiently providing for themselves, nature has implanted in their young this amiable and tender disposition to serve them in the hour of necessity, with food, and covering them with their wings. How amiable is filial piety! Who can observe the Stork never forsaking, but tenderly feeding and defending its parents, until death relieves them from the tender and amiable employment, without exclaiming, "O ye children, imitate this amiable example. Let not a simple bird upbraid and condemn you. But on the contrary, let it stimulate you to the discharge of this most pleasing duty. Let it recal to your mind, the anxious days and sleepless nights they have suffered in nursing, protecting, and promoting your welfare, and you will not fail to imitate the Stork in soothing their decline of life with the lenients of your love, care, obedience, and gratitude.





## H E R O N.

**T**HIS bird may be distinguished from the Crane and Stork, by its smaller size, and much longer bill in proportion, and the middle claw of each foot being toothed like a saw, to seize, and more securely hold its slippery prey.

So numerous is the tribe of Herons, that not less than  
forty-

forty-seven different sorts have been enumerated by BRISSON. Other birds fatten by abundance of food, but these, though excessively voracious, are always lean and hungry. Although they are three feet long, and five broad, they weigh no more than about three pound and half each. Notwithstanding it is most formidably armed with bill and claws, it is so cowardly as to fly from a sparrow-hawk. Its food is fish and frogs. A long abstinence it cannot endure. So voracious is this bird, that WILLOUGHBY asserts one will destroy 15,000 carp in six months. It never swims, but wades after its prey. It lives among pools and marshes, and builds in the highest trees, or on cliffs overhanging the sea. Its flesh that is now thought disgusting, was formerly much esteemed. What an instance is this of the capricious taste of man! Mr. KEYSTER says, this bird frequently attains to sixty years of age.



## EGRET, OR, GREAT WHITE HERON.

**T**HE length of this bird from the bill to the claws, is four feet and half, and to the end of the tail, three feet and a quarter. The weight is about two pounds and half. This bird is entirely white, which distinguishes it from the common Heron. It is rather smaller, has

a longer tail, and no crest. This Heron is seldom seen in England.

THERE is a bird of this kind called the lesser white Heron, which only differs from the preceding in size, and having a crest.

THE little white Heron, according to CATESBY, has a crooked red bill, with a yellow iris on the eyes, a white body, and green feet.

THE YELLOW AND GREEN HERON. To the above Herons, may be added this bird which is found near Marfeilles. The bill of the bird is black above, and yellow below, and about three inches long. The iris are white, as well as that part of the neck next the chin; but the rest of the neck, the top of the head, the breast, and belly are varigated with brown lines. The feathers on the back are black, the wings yellowish, spotted with black, and the tail is stuck with feathers that greatly resemble hair. The thighs are ash-colour, the feet black, and the claws yellow.



## LITTLE OR BRAZIL BITTERN.

**T**HIS bird is smaller than the common pigeon ; but the length of its neck is about seven inches. The skin at the base of the bill is yellowish. The upper part of the head is of a steel colour, interspersed with pale brown feathers. The neck, breast, and belly are whitish,



whitish, but the back is a mixture of black and brown. The long feathers of the wings are greenish, with a white spot at each extremity. The other parts are beautifully variegated with black, brown and ash colour; and the feet are of a blossom colour. The bill is long, straight, sharp, and black at the point; the iris of the eyes is of a gold colour, and the tail does not extend beyond the wings.



SPOON-BILL



## SPOON-BILL OR SHOVELLER.

**V**IEW, ye unbelievers, this strange and singular bird; the bill alone will convince you of their being the most wise design in every part of the creation. This bill is about eight inches long, and is of equal breadth and flatness from one end to the other. Contrary to the bills of all other birds, this bill, instead of being  
widest

widest at the base, and narrowest at the point, it is widest at the point and narrowest at the base. It swells out into a broad and rounded end like the bowl of a spoon, from which the bird derives its name. It is, however, not hollow like a spoon. But, whether closed or open, it has a very singular appearance.

THE bird itself is all over as white as snow, and appears wonderfully pretty from its cleanliness. It is common in Europe, and frequents waters.

THIS strange bill was peculiarly formed for the necessities of the bird. Feeding principally upon the frog which, by its cunning and activity, avoids being taken by birds with pointed bills, the Spoon-bill, being, thus provided, easily takes them as his prey. The bill is notched and toothed all round, to prevent the frogs escaping after they are once caught. Thus we perceive nature does nothing in vain. He, who can believe otherwise, must have either a weak head or a bad heart.

THE Spoon-bill of America is of a delightful rose colour, or a beautiful crimson.

FLAMINGO.



## F L A M I N G O.

**T**HE Flamingo is another remarkable instance of the Creator providing every thing with what its wants require. Thus is this bird provided with a most uncommon length of legs and neck. It is found about the shallow shores of the sea, and the mouths of rivers. Its legs are so long that when it walks in the water, it  
appears

appears to be swimming. The head is almost constantly under water in search of food. At this time, it appears no larger than a goose, from the body only being observed. But how great is the astonishment of the spectator when it comes out of the water, and presents itself in height of legs and neck, like that of an ostrich. Its height is not only superior to that of any other bird, but its beauty is scarcely to be equalled. The body is snow white, the wings are so bright a scarlet as to dazzle the sight, and the long feathers are the deepest black. The beak is blue, except at the tip, which is black, and its shape so singular as to appear broken. The legs and thighs, which are not much thicker than a man's finger, are about two feet eight inches high, and its neck near three feet long. The toes of this bird are webbed like those of the duck kind; so that it can swim when the preservation of its life requires, which is sometimes hazarded by the sudden rise of wind and water, that while it is standing to a great depth in search of its prey, might carry the bird out to sea,



sea, where it would perish for want of its only subsistence which it finds on the shores.

A dish of Flamingos' tongues, DAMPIER asserts, is a feast for an emperor.

THESE birds always go in flocks, and are found in great quantities in Canada. Their nests are formed of mud, and resemble very much our chimney pots. When the female lays her eggs, she sits astride her nest with her legs hanging on each side in the water,



AVOSETTA



## AVOSETTA OR SCOOPER.

**T**HE Avosetta is distinguished from all other birds by the bill turning up instead of down. This singular bill is about three inches and a half long, slender, flexible, compressed very thin, and of a substance resembling whalebone. It has a short tongue, black head, and a body which is great part of it of the same hue.

The

The tail consists of twelve white feathers, the legs are very long, of a fine blue colour, and featherless higher than the knee. The webs are dusky and deeply indented.

THE bill nature has so peculiarly formed in order to enable the bird to scoop out of the sand, those worms and insects on which it feeds. The bird lays two eggs, about the size of those of the pigeon. They are white tinged with green and spotted with black. These birds are frequently seen in winter on the eastern shores of the kingdom : in Gloucestershire, at the mouth of the Severn ; and sometimes on the lakes of Shropshire. It has a chirping lively note, and frequently wades in the waters.

CURLEW.



## C U R L E W.

**T**HIS bird weighs about 27 ounces. Its length from the top of the bill to the end of the claws is 29 inches, and the breadth between the extreme points of the wings extended is three feet four inches. The bill, which is near six inches long, is narrow, a little crook-

IP

ed,

ed, and of a dark brown colour. The legs are long, bare, and of a dusky blue, having a thick membrane meeting at the first joint. This bird is of a greyish colour, and its flesh is very rank and fishy, notwithstanding the English proverb in its favour. In the winter time, Curlews frequent our coasts in large flocks, walking on the sands in search of their prey, which is crabs, and other marine insects. In summer they retire to the mountainous part of the country, where they pair and breed. Their legs are of a pale olive colour, marked with irregular brown spots.

THE lesser Curlew, called also the Wimbrel, greatly resembles the larger. The chief difference is in the size, this being so much smaller as to weigh only twelve ounces.





## OF WATER-FOWL IN GENERAL.

THE great distinction between water and land fowl, is the toes being webbed for swimming. Those who observe the feet or toes of a duck will easily conceive how admirably they are formed to move in the watery element to which they are mostly destined. What man performs by art, when he closes his fingers in swimming, water-fowl is supplied by nature to perform. The toes are so contrived, that as they strike backward, the broadest hollow surface beats the water, but as they draw them in again, their front surface contracts so as not to impede the bird's progressive motion.

A water-fowl walks with much difficulty. They, therefore, seldom breed far from the sides of waters where they usually resort.

As the most worthy notice, we shall choose the Pelican, as a subject for description.



## P E L I C A N.

**L**OVERS of the marvellous, have related strange wonders of this bird. The tale respecting the care of its young, has been so generally received, as to be frequently adduced as an example for man to imitate.

The beak is peculiarly uncommon. But in other respects the bird differs very little from the swan. It is  
so

so bulky and unwieldy, that it is only adapted for water. The note is very loud and strange for a bird; some compare it to the braying of an ass, and others, that it is like the voice of a man grievously complaining. DAVIN compares his groaning to the pelican of the wilderness, and the owl of the desert.

THE beak is very long and large. It is about a foot long, and as thick as the bottom part of a child's arm. The colour is rather blue and yellow, and the point is very sharp. The lower chap differs from every thing of the kind in nature. It is made of two long and flat ribs, with a rough membrane connected to both, in the form of a bag, which extending to the throat, is large enough to hold a considerable quantity of food to supply the bird in times of scarcity. Feeding her young from this bag, had so much the appearance of feeding them with her own blood, that it must have been the cause of this fabulous opinion being propagated. Thus arose the Pelican being chosen as an emblem of paternal, as the Stork has been more justly, of filial affection. It is thought to be so long-lived, as to live 60 or 70 years.



## F U L M A R.

**T**HIS bird is found in the island of St. Kilda, where it supplies the inhabitants with oil for their lamps, down for their beds, a balsam for their wounds, a delicacy for their tables, and a medicine for their diseases. It denotes, likewise, the change of wind.

THIS bird is larger than the common Gull ; the bill is very strong, yellow, and hooked at the end.

ENGLISH

## ENGLISH SONG BIRDS.

**A**BERDIVINE. This bird resembles, in size and colour, the Grey Canary. The Cock is distinguished by a black spot on his head, and a little black under the throat: the hen is greyer, has a spotted breast and belly. They are both familiar, and are easily taken by any trap or device of the least contrivance.

**FOOD.** THEY love white seed, but they are mostly fed like Linnets and Goldfinches.

**BLACK-BIRD.** The cock is generally the blackest while young, and it has a yellow circle round the eyes. The bill continues black until it is a year old, when it turns perfectly yellow, which deepens as the bird grows old. And his dark russet feathers with his ash coloured belly, turn then a coal black.

THE hen is distinguished by having the tip and upper part of the bill black.

**FOOD.** When young they should be fed every two hours with lean fresh meat, minced very small with bread, a little moistened. When older, they may be fed with any raw or dressed meat that is not stale or  
four.



four. They should have water to wash and prune their feathers.

**BULL-FINCH.** This bird is greatly esteemed for its beauty and singing. To distinguish the cock from the hen you must pull a few feathers from the breast, when they are about three week's old. Those of the cock will be of a curious red, and those of the hen of a pale brown.

**Food.** When young, they should have rape-feed, soaked in clean water for eight or ten hours, then scalded, strained, and bruised, mixed with an equal quantity of white bread, soaked in water, boiled with a little milk, and made fresh every day, to prevent its turning sour and spoiling the birds. When they can feed themselves, they should have rape and canary-feed, mixing most rape as for Linnets. If they droop, put a blade of saffron in their water.

**CHAFFINCH.** The cock Chaffinch at about ten or twelve days old has much white in his wings and pinnions, a reddish breast, and all his feathers higher and more brilliantly coloured than those of the hen. An old cock has a blueish head, a reddish brown back, mixed with green or ash colour, a fine purple red breast, and a white belly. The hen's feathers are grey on the breast.

**Food.** This Bird may be fed as the Green-Finch, or Linnet.

**GOLD-FINCH.** This bird, by some called the Thistle-Finch, from living in winter mostly on thistle-seeds, is greatly admired for its song and beauty; it is reckoned the finest feathered of all the cage birds, and so long lived, that **WILLOUGHBY** mentions one to have lived twenty-three years. The cock is chiefly distinguished by a curious scarlet circle round the fore part of his head or the basis of the bill.

**Food.** When young, they should have white bread soaked in clean water to a very thick consistence. To this, add a little flour of canary-seed. They should be fed at least every two hours, very sparingly, and with fresh made food every day. In about a month after, you may wean them gradually from this soft food, by giving them some canary-seed beside, until they can be brought to live on the latter entirely.

**GREEN-FINCH,** Otherwise the Green-Linnet, and the Green-Bird, is of a strong, hardy nature, and rather larger than the Chaffinch. The head and back of the cock are green edged with grey. The middle of the back is inclined to the chesnut. The fore part of his head, neck, breast, and quite down the belly and rump, are of a yellow green.

**Food.**

**Food.** This bird may be fed as the Chaffinch or Linnet.

**SPARROW.** The Hedge Sparrow is capable of being tamed so as to fly about the house without any apprehensions of its straying. It will take the song of the best singing-birds, if it be properly placed with them. The cock has a long, slender, dusky coloured bill. The upper side of his body is black, mixed with a dirty red, and the breast is black.

**Food.** When taken at twelve days old, they may be fed with minced fresh meat and bread, or with Wood-lark's meat. When brought up, they may be fed with hemp and canary. If drooping, mix with it a little oatmeal.

**COMMON LINNET.** This bird is said to excel all small English birds in its singing. The note is curious and he can imitate the song of any other bird. The cock is distinguished by having a browner back than the hen, and by the whiteness of its wings. When the wings are full grown, the second, third or fourth feather is white up to the quill.

**Food.** They should be fed with some of the seed gathered from the land where they are taken, mixed with

with a little bruised hemp-feed. When caged, a small quantity of canary, and a few corns of hemp should be given to them. If drooping, a little lettuce-feed, and a small piece of liquorice or saffron put in their water, will revive them. Chick-weed is also a great restorative to the Linnet.

**NIGHTINGALE.** The Nightingale is reckoned the best of song-birds. The cock is distinguished by its deeper and higher colours in grown birds. In nestlings, when he has eaten, he gets upon the perch and begins to tune to himself.

**Food.** Give him three times a week two or three meal-worms, or worms taken out of a pigeon's house, or two or three spiders a day, to purge them. When his fat declines, give him in his water a little saffron. Figs chopped small among their meat will recover their flesh when they are very thin.

**RED-POLE** Is very prettily featherd The head and breast of the cock are of a fine red, and much more brilliant than those of the hen. It is not much esteemed for its singing, although it has rather an agreeable note. Its nest never being found in England, denotes that it must be a foreign bird.

It is taken and fed as the Linnet.

**RED-START.**

**RED-START.** The cock is a very beautiful bird. The tail, rump, and breast are of a fine red. The back, neck, and hind part of the head are of a lead colour. The throat, and fore part of the head are jet black, and it has a white mark on the pole. He is distinguished mostly from the hen, by its black head. He doubles his notes very finely, and will sing in the night as well as the day.

**Food.** He should be fed and managed as the Nightingale.

**ROBIN-RED-BREAST.** This bird is naturally solitary. But when impelled by cold, it becomes daring, familiar, and sociable. The red on the breast of the cock is deeper, and extends farther upon the head than on the hen's. His legs are also darker, and he has generally a few hairs on each side of his bill.

**Food.** Feed them in the same manner as the Woodlark, or Nightingale. But as they are very tender, be careful not to overcharge their stomachs. Never let them want fresh water, and once a week put in it a blade of saffron.

**SKY-LARK.** At about a month old, the cock may be known by his notes, though low, being distinctly altered. In old birds, the cock is the lightest coloured,



coloured, has a browner back, a yellower throat and breast, and a white belly.

**FOOD.** Give them egg, bread, and bruised hemp-seed, with red sand in the bottom of the cage, and they will grow tame in two or three days. The nestlings should be fed every two hours with white bread and milk, mixed with one third part of rape-seed soaked, boiled, and well bruised. A sheep's heart or other fresh meat, minced small, is good food for them, for a week's time, they should have a hard egg chopped very fine, an equal quantity of hemp-seed bruised, and a little bread grated among it. Give them a turf of three-leaved grass twice a week to perch upon.

**STARLING.** Having described the Starling in the former part of this volume, we have only to observe, he may be fed as the Black-bird, or Wood-lark,

**THRUSH OR THROSTLE.** The Thrush has a great variety of note, and sings nine months in the year. The feathers of the cock differ from those of the hen, in beauty, sleekness, and brilliancy.

**FOOD.** When full grown, feed them with fresh meat, raw, boiled, or roasted, and mixed with bread. This agrees best with them, but they may be brought to feed entirely on bread or hemp-seed. They should have

have a fresh pan of water twice a week. When they are cramped, put fern or clean straw on the bottom of the cage, and feed them as they lie with Nightingale's meat.

**TITLARK.** This bird is handsomely shaped, and excelled by very few of the birds. It has no remarkable song, unless the cock is remarkably excellent when it will sing like a Canary-bird. The nestling cock has more yellow, especially under the throat, legs, and soles of the feet than the hen has in those parts.

**TOM-TIT.** Tom-Tit, otherwise Joe-Bent, is a very pleasing bird, and has a pretty song. They will thrive with bread and cheese, and when grown up, with hemp-seed. But they relish the Wood-lark's food the best.

**TWITE.** This bird is supposed to be a native of Germany. He visits this island in winter. It is very brisk, merry, and is always singing. It is gentle, familiar, and is hung among other birds to provoke them to sing. The cock is known by a red spot on the rump.

**Food.** When caged, they are fed with rape and canary; but they like the canary best.

**WOOD-LARK.** The Wood-lark is esteemed as the best song-bird in the kingdom. It sings nine

months in the year. The cock is best known by its size and song.

Food. When they come to their meat, give them hard egg, chopped and minced with crumbs of bread, a little hemp and maw-feed. One egg is enough for six larks. They may be sometimes fed with minced meat as other birds. But give them no turf in their cage.

WREN is the smallest of song birds, being only about four inches long, from the end of the bill to the end of the tail. This bird, however, has a very loud song. The cock has a dark brown back and head, a white breast and belly, and a bright yellow-variegated with dark lines, tail and wings.

Food. The Wren may be fed as the Nightingale. But when sick, two or three flies, or as many spiders.

CANARY BIRD. This being the most estimable bird for its note among those who delight in singing birds, although it be foreign, yet we could not avoid inserting a short account of the bird itself and its food in this volume.

It derives its name from the Canary Isles, its original native country. Of the several colours, those which have white tails are the least valued. The mottled birds are those which are chiefly brought into this  
county

country by the Germans. The cocks are of a lively yellowish colour. The hens are of a dusky white.

To choose a good Canary, observe that he stands boldly, straitly, and uprightly upon his perch. Let his looks be sprightly, full of life and vigour. Let him look freely at you, looking at him, without his fluttering or beating himself.

GIVE the Canary bird now and then maw-feed, in which he principally delights. Put sometimes a bit of loaf-sugar between the wires of his cage. In warm weather, give him a little feedy chick-weed or ground-fel. The fine leaf of a young radish, heart of a cabbage, goss filefia lettuce, or endive, will serve to vary their food, which being thus changed, prevents their loss of appetite, and other sicknesses, caused by keeping them on the same diet.

